

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,) **Case No. 3:21-cr-00435**
)
Plaintiff,)
) Dallas, Texas
V.) October 1, 2021
) 9:30 a.m.
DAVID ANIMASHAUN (01),)
OLUWALOBAMISE MICHAEL MOSES)
(2),) DETENTION HEARING
CHUKWUEMEKA ORJI (5),)
EMANUEL STANLEY ORJI (6),)
FREDERICK ORJI (7),)
Defendants.)

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE HONORABLE IRMA CARRILLO RAMIREZ,
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE.

APPEARANCES:

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1 DALLAS, TEXAS - OCTOBER 1, 2021 - 9:34 A.M.

2 THE COURT: All right. For purposes of our hearing
3 this morning, I'm going to take Ms. Vasquez's case first, as
4 soon as she gets here, because there's a waiver. But I want
5 to go ahead and start covering some ground rules on these
6 other hearings that we're going to have. I believe there are
7 Immigration detainers on two of the defendants and outstanding
8 warrants on a third. Are we still going forward with hearings
9 on those cases, even though they cannot be released from
10 custody, they're going to be released into somebody else's
11 custody?

12 MR. FINN: Thank you, Judge. Can I approach?

13 THE COURT: Why don't we stay right inside the well.

14 MR. FINN: Okay.

15 THE COURT: And speak up for me.

16 MR. FINN: I'm sorry. I got in trouble for not
17 wearing my mask earlier.

18 THE COURT: Well, let's put it on. I want to be sure
19 that the record reflects my statements on the -- the masks
20 muffle the sound, so that's why I've taken mine off. I am, I
21 think, at a sufficient distance from everyone, behind
22 Plexiglas.

23 MR. FINN: Sure.

24 THE COURT: You're not behind Plexiglas, so --

25 MR. FINN: Okay.

1 THE COURT: All right.

2 MR. FINN: My client is Mr. Alao. Is he one with an
3 Immigration detainer?

4 THE COURT: Yes.

5 MR. FINN: In that case, we waive. Because I know
6 you can't let him out.

7 THE COURT: All right. Have you spoken with him?

8 MR. FINN: No. And I actually need him to sign some
9 things.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Why don't we have you come over
11 and -- can we move him over to the corner so that he can -- or
12 someplace where he can visit with his attorney?

13 Mr. Orji, Mr. C. Orji, is the other one with a detainer, I
14 believe. Yes.

15 MR. CUNNINGHAM: We'd just like to go forward with
16 the hearing.

17 THE COURT: Even though he can't be released?

18 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I've got testimony that will
19 hopefully the change the Court's opinion.

20 THE COURT: Even if I set a bond for him, he's going
21 to be taken into Immigration custody. That's --

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: And I've got testimony for you to
23 hear.

24 THE COURT: Okay. And then Mr. Emanuel Orji has an
25 outstanding warrant from Collin County on a failure to appear.

1 MR. LUND: Yes, Your Honor. I've spoken with the
2 court coordinator from that jurisdiction. My understanding
3 from -- rather, my office has spoken with her. My
4 understanding is that a bond can be posted on that which will
5 withdraw the warrant. The bond amount will be a little over a
6 thousand dollars. He can make that bond.

7 If the Court is of the opinion that it's not appropriate
8 to go forward until that bond has been made, I'd ask the Court
9 to reset us for next Wednesday so that we can make the bond
10 and then come back for our detention hearing.

11 THE COURT: He can -- it's up to you. He's got a
12 failure to appear with an outstanding warrant. It's up to you
13 if he -- if he wishes to waive, we can handle that today. If
14 he wishes to go forward today, I'm ready to have his hearing.

15 MR. LUND: Judge, he doesn't want to waive. We do
16 want to go forward.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. LUND: And we'd simply suggest that if the Court
19 is unwilling to let him out because of that particular issue,
20 the Court could always hold the order until the warrant is
21 made and then sign the order on Wednesday.

22 THE COURT: He can go forward today or not.

23 MR. LUND: Yes, Judge. We'll go forward today.

24 THE COURT: I will make my decision based on the
25 record.

1 MR. LUND: Thank you, Judge.

2 THE COURT: Thank you.

3 (Proceedings as to Defendant Vasquez, 9:37 to 9:39 a.m.)

4 THE COURT: All right. Let's see. Let's get --
5 which defendant do we think we're going to have the most
6 testimony about?

7 MS. WALTERS: Your Honor, from the Government, we are
8 going to present one agent, and we think it will be relatively
9 equal across all defendants who are going to testify -- I
10 mean, all defendants that we are seeking to detain. I think
11 it will depend more on whether any defendants intend to put on
12 testimony.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MS. WALTERS: So the question may be best directed to
15 them.

16 THE COURT: Okay. I am inclined to impose time
17 limits because of the number of defendants that we have. I
18 understand that we'll have some overlap, but I'm considering
19 fifteen minutes per defendant. Any reason why we need more
20 than that, to Defense Attorneys?

21 MR. COKER: No, Your Honor.

22 MS. CROWDER: No, Your Honor.

23 MR. CUNNINGHAM: No, Your Honor.

24 MR. WATSON: No, Your Honor.

25 MR. LUND: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. All right. And then for the
2 Government, because you've got to cover everybody, I'll give
3 you ten minutes per defendant total, so that should give you
4 enough to --

5 MS. WALTERS: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Plus an additional ten minutes for the
7 overview.

8 MS. WALTERS: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

10 (Proceedings as to Defendant Alao, 9:41 a.m. to 9:44 a.m.)

11 THE COURT: All right. Let's move Mr. C. Orji over
12 to -- with counsel over to the table. And then, Defense
13 Attorneys, you can come sit next to your client. I think we
14 could probably put somebody back in the -- can we put another
15 -- Marshals, is it okay to put a defendant with --

16 MARSHAL: Yes, Judge.

17 THE COURT: -- his attorney in the corner on those
18 blue chairs?

19 (Pause.)

20 THE COURT: All right. Are we ready to proceed?

21 Ms. Walters, you may call your first witness.

22 MS. WALTERS: Thank you very much, Your Honor. The
23 Government calls Task Force Officer Jason Hollingshead.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 MR. LUND: Your Honor, if I may very briefly. I

1 apologize. But having had a chance to speak to my client, if
2 we could possibly waive his hearing, with the right to come
3 back and ask for it when the Collin County hold is taken care
4 of, my client --

5 THE COURT: Well, he can -- he can absolutely do that
6 if that's what he would like to do.

7 MR. LUND: It is, Your Honor. Just, and I apologize
8 to the courtroom. But I was able to speak with him again.

9 THE COURT: All right. Let's --

10 MR. LUND: Thank you.

11 (Pause.)

12 THE COURT: All right. If you'll show -- if you'll
13 stand, Mr. Orji. Mr. Rogers is showing you a signed waiver.
14 Is that your signature?

15 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes.

16 THE COURT: I mean, Mr. Lund. I'm looking at Mr.
17 Rogers on something else. Mr. Lund is showing you a signed
18 waiver. Is that your signature?

19 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, ma'am.

20 THE COURT: Have you -- did you get a chance to read
21 the waiver before you signed it?

22 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Did you discuss it with Mr. Lund?

24 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And do you understand that by signing the

1 waiver, you're giving up your right to a detention hearing at
2 this time, but you've reserved your rights under the Bail
3 Reform Act to ask for a hearing if you are -- if you qualify
4 for a new hearing under the Bail Reform Act?

5 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: (no audible response)

6 THE COURT: Is that what you would like to do at this
7 time?

8 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: (no audible response)

9 THE COURT: I find that the waiver has been given
10 knowingly and voluntarily, and Mr. Orji is remanded to the
11 custody of the Marshal.

12 Mr. Lund, because he did not have retained counsel, I did
13 not arraign him last time, so do want him to do that now?

14 MR. LUND: (faintly) Yes, Judge.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Orji, you told me that you did
16 understand the charges against you. You still have the right
17 to have them read out loud at this time, but you may waive the
18 reading of the indictment. What would you like to do?

19 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Waive it.

20 THE COURT: How do you plead, guilty or not guilty?

21 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Not guilty.

22 THE COURT: A not guilty plea is entered for you.

23 Your case is set in front of Judge Starr, who will be issuing
24 an order to set the trial date and pretrial deadlines. Mr.
25 Lund's office is going to make sure that you are kept notified

1 of those deadlines.

2 Any questions about what we've covered?

3 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: No, Judge.

4 THE COURT: Anything else the Court should address,
5 Mr. Lund?

6 MR. LUND: Not at this time, Your Honor. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: From the Government?

8 MS. WALTERS: No, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. Good luck to you, sir. You
10 may go with the Marshals, and counsel are excused if they have
11 no further matters before the Court.

12 All right. Ms. Walters, now you may call your first
13 witness.

14 MS. WALTERS: And Your Honor, as I do that, would you
15 like us to proceed as we did on Wednesday, questioning from
16 the table and remaining seated?

17 THE COURT: Yes, please, to maintain social
18 distancing. And especially because of the number of people.
19 We can limit movement.

20 MS. WALTERS: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. Agent, if you'll please come
22 forward and raise your right hand for me.

23 (The witness is sworn.)

24 THE COURT: Please be seated, and please speak up
25 into that microphone for me.

Hollingshead - Direct

11

1 JASON HOLLINGSHEAD, GOVERNMENT'S WITNESS, SWORN

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION

3 BY MS. WALTERS:

4 Q Sir, please state your name.

5 A Good morning. My name is Jason Hollingshead.

6 Q And what is your position?

7 A I'm a detective with the Denton Police Department and
8 currently assigned as a task force officer with FBI Dallas.

9 Q How long have you been a police officer with the Denton
10 Police Department?

11 A It will be fifteen years in December.

12 Q What are your responsibilities as a task force officer
13 with the FBI?

14 A So, I'm assigned to a squad that investigates, really,
15 just kind of the gamut of criminal offenses, anything from
16 violent crime to organized crime, to include fraud, bank
17 robbery, kidnapping, you name it.

18 Q And have you had both training and experience in
19 investigating these crimes?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q Are you the case agent on the case captioned United States
22 versus David Animashaun, et al.?

23 A No, I am not.

24 Q Are you familiar with the case?

25 A I am familiar.

1 Q How did you become familiar with the case?

2 A My initial role was really just kind of pitching in
3 wherever I could. Primarily I was in a surveillance role,
4 following, watching. I was also the team leader on an arrest
5 of one of the indicted codefendants.

6 Q And have you also learned about the case by speaking with
7 case agents at FBI, IRS, and HSI?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Okay. Now, what kind of a case is United States versus
10 Animashaun, et al.?

11 A I guess at its core it's a fraud case.

12 Q Uh-huh.

13 A Primarily dealing in romance scams.

14 Q Does this fraud case -- well, and the investigation --
15 does it involve more kinds of scams than just romance scams?

16 A Yes.

17 Q What other kinds of scams have been encountered in the
18 course of the investigation?

19 A Investigators also determined that there was UI fraud or
20 unemployment insurance fraud occurring, I know there was a lot
21 of identity theft occurring, and also a business email
22 compromise scam.

23 Q Okay. Now, for the Court's understanding, could you
24 briefly describe a romance scam, --

25 A Certainly.

1 Q -- what that -- what the typical aspects of a romance scam
2 are?

3 A In a romance scam, you have an offender who will portray
4 himself or herself to be someone that they're not. They'll
5 develop a fake dating profile, if you will, and they'll seek
6 out victims on various dating sites -- Match.com, Bumble, you
7 know, there's a thousand of those. They usually target
8 susceptible victims, folks who are older or elderly or have
9 diminished mental capacity. And they will, over time,
10 convince them that there's a romantic connection there.
11 They'll never actually meet in person. It's usually
12 communications strictly online, sometimes over the phone. At
13 some point, once they've garnered the trust of the victim,
14 they will make up some sort of lie about some tragedy or some
15 inconvenience that's occurred and they need money, and they
16 will convince the victim to send them money.

17 Q And is the -- how long can these romance scams go on?

18 A Years.

19 Q And do these victims typically talk to the individual
20 until they're out of funds?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Okay. Now, could you describe for the Court at a high
23 level what you understand unemployment insurance fraud to
24 entail?

25 A So, during the COVID pandemic, there was a lot of relief

1 packages that were offered by state and federal government.
2 Unemployment insurance scams are run through states. States
3 will pay out benefits to individuals who have become
4 unemployed -- due to the pandemic, in this case.

5 So, in unemployment insurance fraud, an offender will
6 actually steal the identity of a U.S. citizen. These citizens
7 are typically elderly individuals who would not, you know,
8 otherwise would be applying for unemployment insurance. But
9 the offender will steal that identity, will use that identity
10 to report their claim of unemployment, and will begin
11 receiving benefits from the state.

12 Q Does unemployment insurance fraud also often involve
13 identity theft?

14 A It does.

15 Q Okay. Is that because you have to have a real person's
16 identity to be able to submit the application for
17 unemployment?

18 A That's correct. You need -- you need all the personal
19 identifying information, to include Social Security number.

20 Q So is there anything that distinguishes this particular
21 case, this fraud, from run-of-the-mill fraud cases?

22 A I believe so.

23 Q What is it?

24 A For one, this investigation has revealed that this is a
25 very well-organized criminal enterprise. It's long-term,

1 large-scale, international, and the primary purpose of this
2 criminal enterprise is to defraud and steal from American
3 citizens.

4 Q Do you have a concern, based on your investigation and
5 your knowledge of the investigation, that, if released, these
6 defendants are a flight risk or present a danger to the
7 community?

8 A Yes, I believe both are true.

9 Q And at this point, have you heard any figures about the
10 dollars lost that have been identified in this investigation
11 or the number of victims affected so far in this
12 investigation?

13 A I know by the last count I was told that the
14 investigation, which has spanned, I believe, four years, has
15 identified over one hundred victims and over \$17 million in
16 losses.

17 Q Now, let's turn to the first individual in this
18 conspiracy. Let's start alphabetically with Mr. Animashaun.
19 And in fact, let's start first with his -- with concerns you
20 might have that he presents an economic danger to the
21 community. Could you describe for the Court what your
22 concerns are based on?

23 A Certainly. The investigation has revealed that he is an
24 intimate player in this criminal enterprise that's defrauded
25 American citizens. I can give you one example that

1 investigators learned about early on.

2 If you go all the way back to 2017 when he filed his
3 taxes, Mr. Animashaun reported to be a musician and a
4 producer. On his 2017 taxes, he reported \$13,000 in gross
5 income and then reported a \$343 net profit in income.
6 However, by comparison, that very same year, he had multiple
7 bank accounts, just one of which that I can cite, in the year
8 2017 alone where he claimed a \$343 income, had over \$205,000
9 in transactions in that one account. All of those funds were
10 victim funds.

11 Q And when you say they're victim funds, is it because
12 they're wires into that account or cash deposits into that
13 account?

14 A Yes. All of the transactions in that one account were
15 from cash deposits and wire transfers.

16 Q Okay. Now, did -- with Mr. Animashaun, was he someone who
17 received funds directly, if I understand you correctly, from
18 victims?

19 A Yes. When I say he was a direct recipient, that means
20 that a victim in one of these scams wired money directly from
21 their account to one of his accounts. So he was a direct
22 recipient of victim funds. And he was also the recipient of
23 what I call co-conspirator funds, which are funds that were
24 sent to his account from the accounts of other indicted co-
25 conspirators.

1 Q Now, you've mentioned what happened in 2017. Is there
2 anything more current that indicates -- any more current
3 information that indicates he continues to be involved in
4 fraud or presents a danger to the community?

5 A I believe so.

6 Q And could you describe that for the Court?

7 A So, as recently as two weeks ago, when investigators
8 executed a search warrant at Mr. Animashaun's home, they
9 located a notepad with multiple pages of personal identifying
10 information. And this PII, as we call it, was fairly unique.
11 It appeared to potentially involve PII of foreign nationals --
12 Chinese citizens, to be more specific. It contained their
13 FICO scores, for example.

14 Another interesting find during the search of his home was
15 he had an office and kind of a small library, and his library
16 was full of books on the power of persuasion and influencing
17 people and American idioms, which that in and of itself is not
18 illegal, but when you view that in the context of his
19 involvement in this scam it really speaks, I believe, to his
20 goal of practicing and improving upon his tradecraft, which is
21 scamming and stealing from American citizens.

22 Q Is there additional -- any additional indications he
23 presents an economic danger, or it might be considered a
24 flight risk, through bank accounts?

25 A Absolutely. Investigators have determined that he has

1 access to multiple foreign bank accounts.

2 Q Okay. And these are in Nigeria?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q Okay. Now, in addition to the access to foreign bank
5 accounts, do you believe that there are reasons he presents a
6 flight risk?

7 A I do.

8 Q And what would those reasons be?

9 A For one, investigators were never able to locate Mr.
10 Animashaun's physical passport. So there's always a concern
11 there.

12 Investigators have also seen routinely throughout the
13 course of this investigation that it's not terribly uncommon
14 for some of these defendants to possess or utilize falsified
15 or forged passports and IDs. We know that Mr. Animashaun was
16 educated in Malaysia. I mentioned previously the foreign bank
17 accounts. We located a cell phone during the search of his
18 house. That cell phone was just plugged in and charging. And
19 it was all in Chinese characters, which, you know, we fear
20 could speak to additional foreign contacts.

21 And then Mr. Animashaun is also known to use aliases.

22 Q Do you recall what aliases you've encountered? Or agents
23 have encountered?

24 A I know of two aliases. One would be David Benson.

25 Q Uh-huh.

1 A And that name was located on several receipts from
2 businesses inside of his home during the search warrant.

3 Another alias is David Brown, which David Brown, that name was
4 found on documents inside his home, and coincidentally, the
5 vehicle that Mr. David Animashaun drives is registered in the
6 name David Brown.

7 Q Is that vehicle the Toyota Avalon?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q And did he also have two other vehicles at the house when
10 the search warrant was run?

11 A I don't recall that.

12 Q Okay. Now, so there's no current passport that has been
13 located?

14 A That's correct.

15 Q Okay. Would that surprise you for someone who is from
16 Nigeria? Is the concern, then, that there is a passport
17 somewhere but no one has been able to find it yet?

18 A Yes, ma'am. That's a fair statement.

19 Q Okay. Is there anything else that you would like to
20 highlight with respect to Mr. Animashaun before we turn to the
21 next defendant?

22 A Other than the fact that I would point out that he was
23 found to be in possession, as recently as two weeks, at the
24 time of his arrest, of personal identifying information. I
25 know that the snapshot that's in the indictment might be from

1 2017, but that does not mean that his criminal activity ceased
2 in 2017. I believe that he is currently involved in criminal
3 activity, and I have every reason to believe that if he was
4 released today he would return right back to that same
5 criminal activity.

6 Q And with -- let's turn to the next defendant. Let's turn
7 to Mr. Moses. Now, with Mr. Moses, let's focus on economic
8 threats that he has posed and continues to pose to the extent
9 he does. Do you have any information that indicates he has
10 been an economic threat to the community?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And could you describe that for the Court?

13 A During the course of the investigation, investigators
14 discovered that Mr. Moses had actually recruited, if you will,
15 he had scammed a female victim and had romanced her basically
16 directly via phone and convinced this woman to open up
17 accounts in her name and to receive victim money into her
18 accounts and then funnel it to him and to other co-
19 conspirators. So I think it shows that not only is he
20 involved in the criminal activity directly, but he is willing
21 to scam directly.

22 In this case, we don't always know who's behind the
23 keyboard typing out the messages or sending the phony love
24 letters. Because of the use of VPNs, you can remain
25 relatively anonymous on the Internet. It's very tough to

1 track that.

2 So, in the absence of that, law enforcement does the next
3 best thing: follow the money. If we can't tell who's sitting
4 behind the keyboard, we can at least follow the money when it
5 leaves a victim's account and goes somewhere else. And that's
6 what we've done in this case. And Mr. Moses was a recipient
7 multiple times over of victim funds, and another individual
8 that he recruited, if you will, by fraud, convinced her to
9 open up accounts, she was a recipient of victim funds
10 unknowingly.

11 Q And did he use aliases, to your knowledge?

12 A Yes. Investigators identified several aliases for Mr.
13 Moses. I believe George Mike was one of them. George
14 Williams, I think, might have been another one.

15 Q Have you got any information that indicates he has a fake
16 passport in his name or a forged passport?

17 A Yes. Investigators did learn of the existence of a
18 potential forged Ghanaian passport with Mr. Moses' name and
19 photograph on it.

20 Q And is there any indication that he had a foreign driver's
21 license?

22 A Yes. I believe he has a Malaysian driver's license.

23 Q Do you have any information about where Mr. Moses is --
24 was born or is a citizen of?

25 A I believe he's a -- was born in Nigeria.

1 Q So, having a Ghanaian passport, a Malaysian driver's
2 license, and using aliases presents some concern to you?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q Okay. Did he also have multiple accounts, multiple bank
5 accounts in his name?

6 A He did.

7 Q And if you -- did he also direct the victim to open bank
8 accounts as well, to facilitate the receipt of victim funds
9 and the movement of those funds?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q Okay. Now, we've talked about some of the things that
12 have been found. Do you have reason to believe that he has
13 access to funds abroad?

14 A Yes. We -- I do.

15 Q Okay. Why do you think that?

16 A During the search of Mr. Moses' residence, we did find
17 printouts from what looked like an email that was sent from
18 Mr. Moses requesting a bank to send funds from his account to
19 Lagos Bank for the purpose of land. That was in naira, which
20 is the currency, but the exchange, he was requesting \$50,000
21 to be sent to a bank in Lagos.

22 Q Was there also some sort of physical token that indicated
23 he had a live bank account?

24 A I don't recall that.

25 Q Okay. Now, so he has access to funds abroad. It appears

1 that he has access to property abroad. Correct?

2 A Correct.

3 Q Okay. Now, were any passports located during the search
4 warrant?

5 A No.

6 Q When you -- have you had a chance to look into Mr. Moses'
7 employment?

8 A I have not looked into it directly. I know that he told
9 investigators that he was self-employed, selling cars. He
10 said that he sold cars through OCS Motors, which we know OCS
11 Motors to be a business owned by another indicted codefendant
12 who's sitting in this room. But when questioned, Mr. Moses
13 told investigators that he'd been selling cars there for about
14 three years but he didn't know who the owner was, didn't know
15 the owner's name, and he was not charged any sort of fee for
16 selling cars on -- on this lot.

17 Q And would it be correct to say that the Texas Workforce
18 Commission shows no employment since the second quarter of
19 2020?

20 A Yes, that's correct.

21 Q In addition to what you've already described found during
22 the search warrant, were there other indications of the
23 economic risk he presents?

24 A Yes. Just like, as I mentioned previously with Mr.
25 Animashaun, I believe that Mr. Moses poses a current economic

1 risk to the public. His involvement in this scheme was
2 identified when the investigation began early on in 2017. And
3 then, if you want to talk about present-day stuff, --

4 Q Yes.

5 A -- during the search of his house, investigators located
6 two pages, at least two pages of personal identifying
7 information. These were separate sheets that had names,
8 Social Security numbers, all the identifying information you
9 could ask for. And then, interestingly, at the top of the
10 sheet, he had -- or was written, "Call from" and then had
11 written out the number. And they were different numbers. So,
12 through experience, what we've seen in this investigation,
13 that leads me to believe that those are cheat sheets, if you
14 will, of -- victim cheat sheets. These are victims of romance
15 scams, or potential victims, and -- that have previously been
16 communicated, and he has to designate which phone number to
17 call them from so as not to alert them to something suspicious
18 on their end.

19 Q Were there also debit cards or bank cards located during
20 the search warrant?

21 A Yes. He actually had in his possession a Green Dot card
22 or a prepaid debit card. The name George Williams was on that
23 card, which is not his name. He also had four other cards
24 that were in his name, and then six additional Green Dot cards
25 with no name on them.

1 Q Was there anything --

2 MS. WALTERS: May I have just a moment, Your Honor?

3 (Pause.)

4 BY MS. WALTERS:

5 Q Now, we've been -- you've been talking about what was
6 found during the search warrant, which is all current,
7 information that's current. It doesn't relate back to 2017.
8 It's 2021.

9 A Correct.

10 Q Was there any indication that Mr. Animashaun -- sorry, Mr.
11 Moses would attempt to further disguise where he's calling
12 from via the use of cell phones or multiple SIM cards,
13 anything like that?

14 A Yes. So, actually, in the nightstand right by his bed,
15 there was a cell phone with no SIM card inserted. However, he
16 had I want to say approximately fifteen like spare new SIM
17 cards laying there with the phone.

18 Q Okay. Is there anything else that we should cover with
19 respect to his risk of flight that we have not already
20 covered?

21 A No, ma'am, I don't believe so.

22 Q Okay. Now, let's turn, then, to the next individual.
23 Let's see. Let's turn to Emanuel Orji. Oh, wait, Emanuel's
24 gone. Sorry. It is Frederick? Yeah. Frederick. Sorry.
25 Sorry. Let's turn next to Mr. Frederick Orji.

1 Now, with respect to Mr. Frederick Orji, do you believe
2 that he has presented -- has been involved in this conspiracy
3 that was charged in the indictment for quite a while?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q Do you believe that his involvement even predates the
6 conspiracy?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q And do you believe it continues to this day?

9 A I do.

10 Q Let's talk about the economic danger that Mr. Frederick
11 Orji presents. What leads you to believe that he's been
12 involved in it even before the charged conspiracy and it
13 continues until after the charged conspiracy?

14 A This investigation began in 2017.

15 Q Uh-huh.

16 A Investigators discovered Mr. Frederick Orji's involvement
17 in 2017, and were also able to track back to 2015 and see that
18 he was a recipient of victim funds as far back as 2015. So we
19 have 2015, 2017, and then we have additional evidence that's,
20 you know, as recent as two weeks ago, at the time of his
21 arrest.

22 Q Now, could you describe the evidence that came up or was
23 discovered at the time of his arrest?

24 A Certainly. So, Mr. Frederick Orji's brother, Emanuel
25 Orji, was also arrested. A cell phone was seized from

1 Emanuel, and investigators have, pursuant to a search warrant,
2 gone through that device and have uncovered messages between
3 Emanuel and Frederick Orji.

4 Q And what do those messages detail?

5 A Reading through those messages, the appearance is that
6 Frederick and Emanuel Orji are involved together in a
7 structuring scheme, which just falls right in line with the
8 romance scam and -- fraud.

9 Q Now, you know what, we should probably cover this. In
10 romance scams, when the defendant receives the money, does it
11 stay in that account very long?

12 A It doesn't. So, this organization, this criminal
13 enterprise, is very well-versed in the art of money
14 laundering. They're very, very good, and have for a long time
15 been very successful at avoiding the detection of law
16 enforcement.

17 One of the tactics that they use -- since they know that
18 we can't identify the person behind the keyboard, they know
19 that we're going to follow the money -- one of the tactics
20 that they employ is to move that money out of the account as
21 quickly as possible and move it in a variety of ways. The
22 faster it moves, the more often it moves, the more difficult
23 it is for law enforcement to trace it.

24 Q And is some -- are some of those movements done by simply
25 withdrawing cash?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And are some of those movements done, then, by buying
3 cashier's checks or money orders to --

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. Now, you mentioned a structuring scheme that was --
6 that investigators believe was found on Emanuel Orji's phone.
7 Can you describe what those chats entailed?

8 A Certainly. Those are messages between Frederick and
9 Emanuel where they identify multiple places to stop on the
10 same day. They talk about going to multiple post offices in
11 the same day or multiple stores at the same -- you know, on
12 the same day, to include GPS, you know, dropping location,
13 that sort of thing, kind of laying out the plan. And when I
14 say that's indicative of structuring, that's because that's
15 something that I and other investigators have personally seen
16 multiple times throughout this investigation.

17 Q So --

18 A You -- I'm sorry.

19 Q So they might be going to multiple post offices, multiple
20 grocery stores, to buy money orders or cashier's checks, but
21 if you weren't trying to structure or conceal your behavior
22 you could do -- you could buy all of them at the same place?

23 A You could. You could pull, for example, \$30,000 out at
24 once. However, with that amount of money, there's going to be
25 -- there's going to be some suspicion raised and that's going

1 to be reported to the Government. That's common knowledge.
2 So one tactic that's used to defeat that is, instead of
3 pulling out \$30,000, they'll pull out \$3,000 from ten
4 different places, because the post office in Dallas and the
5 Tom Thumb in Mesquite don't talk to each other, so they're not
6 going to know that the same individual pulled out \$30,000 in
7 one day. They only see it as a \$3,000 transaction, for
8 example.

9 Q And so these two, the chats were in 2021 in which they're
10 discussing going to multiple places on the same day?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q Okay. Now, in addition to that, was there an indication
13 during the search warrant that he has sources of funds that
14 are unusual for one individual?

15 A Yes. So, during the search of Frederick Orji's residence,
16 investigators located approximately 250 stored-value cards or
17 Green Dot cards in his possession. And 250 is -- is a very --
18 is a very large number. You know, you -- we see Green Dot
19 cards in fraud cases all the time. Two hundred and fifty
20 possessed by one individual is quite a feat.

21 Q And is that something that, in this investigation, has
22 occurred when investigators suspect unemployment insurance
23 fraud?

24 A Yes. That is a telltale sign of unemployment insurance
25 fraud.

1 Q Do you know why that is?

2 A Yes. Whenever an individual steals the identity of a
3 victim and obtains unemployment insurance fraud through a
4 state using that victim's identity, oftentimes the payout is
5 going to be auto-debited to a card or an account. So, because
6 you're stealing an identity and you have to -- you have to
7 obtain this victim's identity to complete the fraud, preloaded
8 or stored-value cards are one of the most common ways to get
9 those funds sent from the state to the recipient or to the
10 defendant.

11 Q So, having 250 is consistent with being a part of
12 unemployment insurance fraud?

13 A Yes.

14 Q A scheme?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q Now, was there other evidence indicative of engaging in
17 fraud found at Mr. Frederick Orji's house?

18 A Yes, ma'am. Investigators also recovered at Mr. Frederick
19 Orji's house 48,000 naira, which is concerning because it
20 shows access to foreign funds. Investigators also located
21 \$150,000 cash in U.S. currency in his residence.

22 Q Okay. And did he also have passports?

23 A Yes. One passport was seized.

24 Q Now, has he -- have you looked at all his travel records?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Is he someone who travels frequently?

2 A Yes. I believe, since 2012, he has -- it's been reported
3 that he's taken fifteen international trips since 2012.

4 Q And is he an individual who is easy to find, living in a
5 residence that's rented in his name, driving a car that's
6 registered to him, anything like that?

7 A I don't recall if he's the actual leaseholder where he
8 lives or no.

9 Q Okay. Do you recall whether the car was registered to him
10 or another co-conspirator's business?

11 A I do not.

12 Q Okay. Now, let's jump back to travel for just a moment.
13 Did I hear you correctly, fifteen trips?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q Okay.

16 A Since 2012.

17 Q Since 2012? And do you recall his most recent known trip
18 to Nigeria?

19 A I do not.

20 Q Do you know whether he has family in Nigeria?

21 A No, ma'am, I don't.

22 Q Okay. Does he have multiple bank accounts in the United
23 States?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you know whether he is employed currently?

1 A According to the Texas Workforce Commission, I believe his
2 -- he does -- the Texas Workforce Commission does not show him
3 to have any employment --

4 Q Okay.

5 A -- right now, currently.

6 Q Is there anything else we need to cover with respect to
7 Mr. Frederick Orji regarding risk of flight or economic
8 danger?

9 A No, ma'am. I think he falls in the same category as the
10 others that I've talked about, where there's a continuous
11 pattern of fraud and illegal activity, and I believe that, if
12 released, he would continue that pattern. He's done it for
13 years.

14 Q Now, let's talk about Mr. C. Orji. With respect to Mr. C.
15 Orji, let's see, does he present an economic danger to the
16 community?

17 A I believe so.

18 Q And what is that based on?

19 A Well, again, he was identified early on in the
20 investigation. Investigators have shown that he was a direct
21 recipient of victim funds, going all the way back to 2017.

22 One interesting fact about Mr. C. Orji is that between
23 2014 and 2019 he was a signer on 24 different bank accounts,
24 which I believe is a very large number of bank accounts. And
25 many of these accounts were open for very brief periods, one

1 month or two months, and those accounts were shut down by the
2 banks due to suspicious activity.

3 Q And is he the owner of OCS Motors?

4 A Yes. I believe he owns OCS Motors and OCS Realty.

5 Q Okay. Now, is there any record at all in Texas Workforce
6 Commission for C. Orji?

7 A No, ma'am, I don't believe so.

8 Q And is there any record at all in Texas Workforce
9 Commission that indicates C. Orji employs anyone at OCS
10 Motors?

11 A No, ma'am.

12 Q Okay. Now, let's talk about some of the inflow. So, he's
13 got no Texas Workforce Commission records, no employees, 24
14 bank accounts. Do you have any indication that he is involved
15 in fraud and that it extends -- it's more recent than the
16 conduct indicted in 2017?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q And could you describe that for the Court?

19 A I can give several examples. In 2019, Mr. C. Orji was
20 actually in contact with an FBI undercover, had conversations
21 with this FBI undercover, and Mr. C. Orji told that FBI
22 undercover directly that he was involved in cybercrime, fraud,
23 and cleaning money, money laundering. That was in -- that was
24 a conversation in 2019.

25 Q Okay.

1 A There was a search conducted at OCS Motors just two weeks
2 ago, and Mr. C. Orji was found to be in possession of multiple
3 items that would lead me to be -- to believe that he's still
4 currently involved in fraud and is an economic danger.

5 Q Could you describe those items? I believe there were
6 several items found at OCS Motors.

7 A Certainly. So, investigators located multiple debit cards
8 in Mr. Orji's possession that were in other people's names.
9 He was actually in possession of a fake ID card, like a Texas
10 ID card. That ID card had his photograph on it but had the
11 name -- I believe it was like Anthony Mike Opura (phonetic), I
12 believe, with different identifiers. And coincidentally, he
13 also had a debit or credit card in his possession in the name
14 of Anthony Mike Opura.

15 Q So, a fake ID and a debit or credit card in that same
16 name?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Now, were there also items found, such as was there a cash
19 counter found?

20 A I believe there was a cash counter at the -- at the
21 business.

22 Q Is there anything else at the business that you would want
23 to highlight?

24 A Investigators -- one very savvy investigator actually
25 located a bag that was concealed inside a printer. It was a

1 standup printer. You remove the drawer and had to reach in
2 and up, and there was a bag, and that bag was full of -- there
3 was a -- there was a passport belonging to a female in there.
4 There was a credit card skimmer. There was a chip reader.
5 And there was a plethora of prepaid cards and blank IDs.

6 Q Prepaid cards and blank IDs? Okay. And that was hidden
7 inside a printer at OCS Motors?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Okay. Now, a search warrant was also run at his home.
10 Correct?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q Was anything of note taken from the home?

13 A Yes. Investigators actually recovered two firearms from
14 the home.

15 Q And is Mr. C. Orji someone who has legal status in this
16 country to possess the firearms?

17 A No.

18 Q Okay. And is it your understanding that ICE has placed a
19 detainer on Mr. C. Orji?

20 A That's my understanding.

21 Q And that he has no current work authorization permit?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q Okay. Oh, you know what, let's go back, just to make sure
24 that there's no gap in understanding for the Court. You
25 mentioned a credit card skimmer. Could you tell the Court

1 what a credit card skimmer is?

2 A It's a machine that you can run a card through and record
3 all the numbers and identifying information, excuse me, off
4 that card.

5 Q Is it the kind of device that would be placed on like a
6 gas tank, when you're filling up your gas tank and you run
7 your credit card through, it would be placed there to capture
8 the customers' bank card information?

9 A Yes, ma'am. I've seen them on gas pumps. I've seen them
10 at self-checkout terminals in Walmarts, for example. Anywhere
11 that a credit card is swiped, you can -- you can put one in.

12 Q And you also mentioned a chip reader. Is there -- was
13 there a chip writer?

14 A I'm sorry, that's -- that's what it -- it's a chip writer.
15 It's meant to, I guess, I think -- it looked like it was to
16 make perhaps some sort of access cards.

17 Q Okay. And the last question with respect to -- with
18 respect -- since we're covering technology, and I didn't want
19 there to be a lack of understanding, previously when you spoke
20 about Mr. Moses you spoke about SIM cards being located next
21 to a cell phone that didn't have SIM card. Could you describe
22 why it would be notable that multiple unused SIM cards is
23 unusual and why it gives you pause?

24 A Well, it's unusual because there's -- I struggle to think
25 of a reasonable and legal explanation as to why you would

1 need, say, fifteen SIM cards for your cell phone.

2 I believe that it's so that way you can use the same
3 device but swap out the SIM cards and you basically have a new
4 phone that you can call different victims from. So that way
5 you're not calling all of your victims from one single number.
6 You, in essence, have fifteen different numbers that you can
7 call from.

8 Q Okay. Is there anything else that I have neglected to
9 cover with respect to economic danger for Mr. C. Orji?

10 A No, ma'am. I believe that, just like the other defendants
11 that we've spoken about in this case, he has been involved in
12 this criminal scheme for years and is currently involved in
13 criminal activity. By his own admission, he said that he was
14 involved in fraud, cybercrime, and laundering money. And I
15 have every reason to believe that if he was released today
16 he's not going to change his ways, he's going to continue
17 doing what he's done for years.

18 Q Okay.

19 MS. WALTERS: May I have just a moment, Your Honor,
20 before I --

21 (Pause.)

22 MS. WALTERS: I pass the witness.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Cunningham? And I'm going to ask you
24 to move the microphone close to you.

25 MS. WALTERS: Your Honor, I -- before I pass, I made

1 a mistake. I need to ask the agent if he recognizes the
2 defendants in the courtroom.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION, RESUMED

5 BY MS. WALTERS:

6 Q Sir, could you identify the defendants?

7 A I believe we have Mr. Animashaun over here to my far left,
8 Mr. Moses sitting there a little further to my right and Mr.
9 Animashaun's left. Mr. C. Orji is seated at the table, and
10 Mr. F. Orji is seated in the back or the corner.

11 MS. WALTERS: Let the record reflect the witness has
12 identified the defendants.

13 THE COURT: The record will so reflect.

14 MS. WALTERS: I pass.

15 THE COURT: All right.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

18 Q Sir, did I get your name correct? Is it Hollingshead?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q Hollingshead. Agent or Officer? Or Detective?

21 A You can call me Detective. That works.

22 Q Detective Hollingshead, you gave us a full review of four
23 of these individuals, two of which are Mr. C. Orji, and his
24 nickname is Eme (phonetic). I can't pronounce his given name
25 very well.

1 The two brothers, Frederick and Emanuel, you detail for
2 the Court there's a lot of communication between those two
3 brothers as far as the structure and moving money around,
4 correct?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q However, you didn't detail any communication between C.
7 Orji and his other two brothers. Do you have any
8 communication showing he was aware of what they were doing?

9 A I don't at this time. I'm not the one who's going through
10 devices. And that investigation is ongoing. So those devices
11 are still being actively processed.

12 Q When OCS Motors was searched pursuant to a warrant,
13 approximately how many vehicles were seized?

14 A I don't know, sir. I was not -- I wasn't present at that
15 one.

16 Q Would the number eighty vehicles be reasonable?

17 A I honestly have no idea, sir.

18 Q What type of business was OCS Motors?

19 A I believe it was a car dealership.

20 Q A you-tow-'em lot -- lot, wasn't it?

21 A I'm sorry. Say again, sir?

22 Q We call them you-tow-'em. He was selling cars and taking
23 weekly payments for cars?

24 A I'm not sure, sir. I don't know the details of his
25 business.

1 Q If he were in the business of selling used cars and taking
2 weekly payments from people who purchased these cars, would it
3 be unusual for him to have cash?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q Would it be unusual for him to have a cash machine, a
6 counting machine?

7 A No, sir. Not at all.

8 Q Would it be unusual for him to have a credit card machine
9 to process credit cards?

10 A That's possible. Yes, sir.

11 Q Those things are indicative of a legitimate, legal
12 business?

13 A Except for the fact that they were concealed inside a
14 printer. But yes, sir, otherwise.

15 Q But he had other items that were out in -- in the
16 business, correct?

17 A What do you mean, sir?

18 Q Not everything was inside this printer?

19 A No, sir. The credit card skimmer was.

20 Q Okay. Now, you indicated that he did not have a work
21 authorization card.

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: May I approach the -- she's got the
23 original. His wife's got the original.

24 (Counsel confer.)

25 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

1 Q Detective Hollingshead, I'm showing you what --

2 THE COURT: No.

3 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

4 Q I'm going to show you exactly -- can you tell the Court
5 what that is?

6 A It appears to be a photocopy of an ID, U.S. -- United
7 States of America employment authorization, Chukwuemeka Orji.

8 Q And it's valid from 11/19 of '20 to November the 18th of
9 '21?

10 A That's what it states. Yes, sir.

11 Q And I gave the original card to USA. And here's his
12 passport. Did you find his passport at his home?

13 A I was not at his home. Investigators, I believe, did.
14 (Pause.) I'm sorry, there was no passports located during the
15 search of his residence or business.

16 Q So if, in fact, he did possess a valid current U.S. work
17 authorization card, your information would be incorrect?

18 A That's accurate. Yes, sir.

19 Q And you detailed that his brother had been to Nigeria or
20 fifteen international trips. Has Mr. C. Orji left this
21 country in the last ten years?

22 A Not that I'm aware of, sir.

23 Q And how long do you show that Mr. C. Orji lived in the
24 home in DeSoto?

25 A I'm not sure, sir.

1 Q You made references to his brothers, that you didn't know
2 where they lived and they were moving around a lot. He's
3 lived in his home for more than ten years and they own that
4 home, correct?

5 A That's my understanding. Yes, sir.

6 Q So his situation is very different than his two brothers.
7 Would you agree?

8 A When it comes to their living arrangements, yes.

9 Q And he had a legitimate legal car business with -- that he
10 was generating income from the car business, correct?

11 A Well, the investigation is still ongoing, so I can't speak
12 to the legitimacy of his business, but he did have that
13 business, OCS Motors.

14 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Pass the witness.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

16 MR. COKER: Just, I haven't seen the search warrant
17 or anything.

18 THE COURT: Before, before you start, can I ask you
19 to please move the microphone over to the corner and for you
20 to --

21 MR. COKER: I'm sorry.

22 THE COURT: -- speak up. Thank you. There is no
23 court reporter, but the proceedings are being recorded, so
24 it's important to be able to hear you.

25 CROSS-EXAMINATION

1 BY MR. COKER:

2 Q All right. Just for a little clarity, you were
3 investigating these romance schemes from 2017, correct?

4 A I was not personally. The FBI, IRS, HSI --

5 Q Okay.

6 A -- law enforcement organizations were.

7 Q All right. And when -- so you got a search warrant to
8 search -- an arrest warrant or search warrant for Mr. Moses'
9 home, correct?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q Off of information that was from 2017?

12 A I did not write the search warrant, so I don't know
13 exactly what those affidavits entailed.

14 Q Okay. And after you -- I guess after you, you know, did
15 the search warrant, you did the search, did you find anything
16 that applied to the 2017 case?

17 A I have not gone through everything --

18 Q Okay.

19 A -- that was seized from his house, and the investigation
20 is ongoing, so I can't speak to that.

21 Q Okay. And so the next question I'm asking you is you
22 talked about SIM cards you found and you said that that, you
23 know, makes it -- might have some basis for fraud. Correct?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q Okay. Could it be that he buys prepaid SIM cards to call

1 his brother and sister in Nigeria and his other brother in the
2 U.K. and it's cheaper for him to buy the SIM cards and use
3 those as prepaid instead of his service because he doesn't
4 have international service? Could that be a reason that he'd
5 have all those SIM cards and not for fraud?

6 A Sure. Yes, sir.

7 Q Okay. And would that make, I guess, your -- his
8 likelihood of committing more crimes or, you know, being a
9 flight risk less or more?

10 A I'm sorry. You faded away. I couldn't understand the
11 last part.

12 Q Okay. So, basically, if you -- if that was the case, that
13 these were prepaid cards, it wouldn't show any indication of
14 fraud or any kind of flight risk, right?

15 A Just the SIM cards?

16 Q Yes. If they were inter -- if they're used just for
17 international calls.

18 A If we're talking only about SIM cards, --

19 Q Okay.

20 A -- that's fine. That doesn't account for the pages of
21 personal identifying information he possessed.

22 Q Okay. But that personal identifying information, that's
23 gone, right? You took that? So he doesn't have that anymore,
24 right?

25 A Correct.

1 Q Okay. And then you said there wasn't a passport at the
2 house. If he had his passport in a bank security box, would
3 that make sense, instead of at his home?

4 A He certainly could.

5 Q Okay. And --

6 A Are you talking -- I'm sorry.

7 Q I'm talking about Mr. Moses.

8 A Okay.

9 Q You said that during the search you didn't find a
10 passport, and that was --

11 A Correct. We didn't find --

12 Q -- some sort of strange thing.

13 A -- his actual passport or the fake Ghanaian passport.

14 Q Okay. And where did this fake Ghanaian passport -- how do
15 you know about that?

16 A It was sent via email.

17 Q A passport was sent via an email?

18 A Yes. I can tell you the story, if you'd like.

19 Q Okay.

20 (Pause.)

21 Q All right. Now, you talked about other people with chats
22 for money orders, but that doesn't have anything to do with
23 Mr. Moses, correct?

24 A You -- I'm sorry, sir. I didn't --

25 Q You talked about other defendants having chats regarding

1 money orders and going to pick up stuff from Western Union so
2 that it doesn't go over thirty -- you know, didn't go over
3 \$3,000. But that didn't involve him, right?

4 A The chats between Emanuel and Frederick Orji did not
5 involve Mr. Moses.

6 Q Okay.

7 A That's correct.

8 Q And you talked about the Green Dot cards. I guess on one
9 defendant you found 25. And on him you found like eight or
10 so?

11 A Yes, sir. I believe there was at least six, and then
12 there was one that was in a different name. So I think seven
13 total.

14 Q And so those were -- the six that you found were in his
15 name?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Okay. They just didn't have a name?

18 A They were like Valued Customer or --

19 Q Okay.

20 A -- My Gift Card type things.

21 Q All right. And you talked about a Malaysian driver's
22 license. Did you know that he went to school in Malaysia and
23 that he lived in Malaysia for a while?

24 A Yes, sir. I knew that he was educated in Malaysia.

25 Q Okay. So the Malaysian driver's license wouldn't be

1 anything suspicious or make you think that he's a flight risk
2 or a danger, correct?

3 A I would disagree when it comes to flight risk. I think it
4 shows that he's very comfortable traveling outside of the
5 United States and living outside of the United States. So I
6 think it could speak to that.

7 Q Yes. I mean, he lived in Malaysia, but then he's been
8 here for six years. And he hasn't been back --

9 (Counsel confers with Defendant.)

10 BY MR. COKER:

11 Q He's never been back to Malaysia.

12 A Yeah. I was -- I was not aware.

13 Q Okay. And are you aware -- you talked about other
14 people's international travel. Are you aware of any
15 international travel involving Mr. Moses?

16 A I know of one since 2016, where he flew to Qatar.

17 (Counsel confers with Defendant.)

18 BY MR. COKER:

19 Q Okay. Would you -- I guess if you knew that he had gotten
20 married about five years ago and he took his wife to meet his
21 family in Nigeria and that's the only international travel
22 he's had, would that make sense -- would that make sense to
23 you?

24 A That's very possible. Yes, sir.

25 Q Okay. And would you say that that's somebody who looks

1 like they're a flight risk, if they just go to Nigeria to --
2 and introduce their new wife to their family? That's a
3 legitimate trip, correct?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Okay. And he had no other international travel during the
6 past six years?

7 A The only one that I'm aware of is October of 2017.

8 Q Okay. And as far as you talked about his business, he
9 sells cars. He also works part time. He does Uber driving,
10 he does Door Dash. And he's filed taxes on those. Correct?

11 A That's my understanding. Yes, sir.

12 Q Okay. And are you aware -- were you there when he was
13 arrested? Did you execute that warrant?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Okay. Were you aware he has a -- he had a son living with
16 him?

17 A Yes. I did hear that.

18 Q Okay. And his son has special needs? He's autistic? He
19 takes care of him?

20 A I was not aware of that.

21 Q Okay.

22 MR. COKER: No more questions. Pass the witness.

23 THE COURT: How about for Mr. Frederick Orji?

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. WATSON:

1 Q Detective, in the return, did you notice where it says
2 two -- oh, I'm Mark Watson and I represent Freddy. Detective,
3 did you notice that the return said two passports on the
4 return from his apartment or house?

5 A No, sir.

6 Q Okay. Would it -- I've got a picture of it on my phone.
7 Would you like to see it?

8 A I -- no, sir. I have no reason to doubt that.

9 Q Okay. So it says two passports. And I think that you --
10 you're aware that he has a U.S. passport, correct?

11 A I'm not sure where his passport is out of. I do see in my
12 notes that at least one passport was seized. But I'm not --
13 I'm not sure what the originating country is on that.

14 Q Okay. Do you -- would it -- do you want me to show you
15 the return that says two passports were taken?

16 A No, sir. I have no reason to doubt that.

17 Q Okay. All right. I'm informed that he is a naturalized
18 citizen out of New York state for approximately five years.
19 And later today, could you confirm that, or could you or your
20 FBI partners confirm that later in the day with the U.S.
21 Naturalization Service?

22 A We can certainly try to find that out.

23 Q Okay. You think you can do that today?

24 MS. WALTERS: I'm going to object. I think we've had
25 this information and we've previously provided it. He --

1 we're not going to show that he's a U.S. citizen. He's a
2 legal permanent resident. ICE -- we checked twice. There is
3 no record that ICE has of his citizenship.

4 THE COURT: Of Mr. Frederick Orji's citizenship?

5 MS. WALTERS: That's correct.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 BY MR. WATSON:

8 Q Detective, you say that you believe that, for lack of a
9 better term, a tiger doesn't change its stripes. Is that your
10 theory?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q You think -- so you think that if he is let out, he will
13 -- he will, if he is involved in fraud, you think he'll pick
14 it up tomorrow?

15 A I think that's a very real possibility.

16 Q Possibility, but it's just -- it's just speculation on
17 your part, correct?

18 A Certainly. I can't -- I can't predict the future.

19 Q Okay.

20 A I just, I think, generally speaking, --

21 Q Okay.

22 A -- I believe he's a danger economically to --

23 Q Okay.

24 A -- the country.

25 Q And you're aware that there is a huge business in the U.S.

1 about buying and selling gift cards or little -- or little
2 currency cards with money on them? It's enormous.

3 A Okay. I'm not aware of it.

4 Q You're -- you're not aware of people that are in the
5 business of buying and selling, if it has \$100 on there, they
6 give them \$80 or a discounted value?

7 A Okay.

8 Q Are you aware of people that do that for a living?

9 A Well, I don't know anyone that does it for a living, but I
10 -- I have seen things for sale on social media sites or
11 whatever.

12 Q All right. So, --

13 A I didn't realize that you could make a business.

14 Q So, it's a common occurrence in the United States of
15 America that people do that; is that correct?

16 A I have no reason to doubt that. That's very possible.

17 Q Well, you're a -- you've testified that you do a lot of
18 fraud investigation and that you're a general fraud detective
19 tied -- that you do a lot of investigation and you're a
20 general detective, criminal law. Correct?

21 A I'm sorry. Could you rephrase the question? I didn't
22 understand it.

23 Q Well, it's just surprising that you don't know about that
24 when you say that you're a -- when you present to the Court
25 your bona fides about your criminal investigation background.

1 A You had asked if I was aware that there was a lot of
2 businesses. I said I was not aware. I -- my intention was to
3 explain that I was not aware that there was a lot of
4 businesses whose, you know, business plan was selling gift
5 cards.

6 Q Let me rephrase that. Are you aware that there are lots
7 of people in the United States that do that?

8 A Yes, there are people who sell gift cards. I don't know
9 how many. I don't know how common it is. But I do know that
10 that exists.

11 Q And they buy and sell them, correct?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Thank you. The text messages between Emanuel and
14 Frederick, are those one-way or two-way messages?

15 A They're two-way, sir.

16 Q And do you have any evidence that Frederick picked up
17 money at different locations?

18 A I haven't examined them in enough detail to determine how
19 much or if or when. I just know that those were the plans
20 that were laid out in the text messages.

21 Q And so those were discussions, but you don't know if they
22 were acted upon. Correct?

23 A That's correct.

24 Q If -- if the Government seized a Nigerian passport and a
25 U.S. passport from Frederick, would that make it more

1 difficult for him to leave the country?

2 A Well, it -- it's hard to say. We have seen multiple times
3 throughout this case with other defendants the use of forged
4 government documents. Forged IDs and --

5 Q But you don't have any --

6 A -- forged passports.

7 Q -- evidence of Frederick --

8 MS. WALTERS: If he can let the witness finish his
9 answer.

10 THE COURT: Hold on. Hold on. Everybody take a
11 minute. All right. One at a time. Let's see. Were you
12 finished with your answer?

13 THE WITNESS: I believe so. Yes, ma'am.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 BY MR. WATSON:

16 Q You don't have any evidence of Frederick having access or
17 stories about falsified passports, do you?

18 A No, sir. That's correct.

19 Q And you can't get on an airplane at D-FW without a
20 passport; is that correct?

21 A Not for an international flight. No, sir.

22 Q And it's not illegal to have \$150,000 in cash, is it?

23 A Suspicious, but not illegal.

24 Q Suspicious? Okay. Does he have any violent history?

25 A Not that I'm aware of, sir.

1 Q Did you find any arrests?

2 A None that I'm aware of, sir.

3 Q And could it be that he has -- you said twelve -- could it
4 be twelve trips, or fifteen trips?

5 A Fifteen international trips since 2012.

6 (Pause.)

7 Q If a person is self-employed, would it necessarily show
8 Texas Workforce Commission?

9 A No, sir. Not always.

10 Q So the fact that he doesn't show employment doesn't mean
11 that he's not otherwise making money perhaps legally?

12 A Perhaps. Yes, sir.

13 Q Okay. So that's not a -- I mean, most of the lawyers in
14 here probably don't have a TWC file, I guess, right?

15 A Right.

16 Q Okay.

17 MR. WATSON: Judge, could I have one more second?

18 (Pause.)

19 BY MR. WATSON:

20 Q Detective, if we -- if in the next day or two I was able
21 to show to the Court that Freddy has a U.S. passport and is a
22 naturalized citizen, would that affect your view of whether or
23 not he may or may not be a flight risk?

24 A No, sir, it would not.

25 Q Would you think that it is more likely than not that he,

1 if he is a U.S. citizen, would that -- think it more likely
2 than not that he's not a flight risk? Or would it -- would
3 that increase, to me or to the Court, would that indicate to
4 you that he is less likely to be a flight risk if he is a --
5 if he's a U.S. citizen?

6 A No, sir. Not necessarily.

7 Q Did you find any firearms?

8 A No, sir.

9 MS. WALTERS: Pass the witness.

10 THE COURT: All right. For Mr. Animashaun. And
11 gentlemen, I'm going to ask one of you to please move back so
12 that Ms. Crowder can have the microphone.

13 A VOICE: Is this good?

14 MS. CROWDER: Yes, this is good. Thank you.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MS. CROWDER:

17 Q Hello. How are you?

18 A Good morning. I'm well.

19 Q I just want to ask some specific question with regards to
20 Mr. Animashaun.

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q First, you had mentioned -- well, have you had the -- I'm
23 sure you've had the opportunity to read the indictment; is
24 that correct?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. And in the indictment, it has 28 different --
2 that's listed just in the indictment for specific -- 28
3 different manner and means as to how all the -- each specific
4 defendant committed fraud. Is that correct?

5 A I believe that's correct.

6 Q And with regards to Mr. David Animashaun, you'll agree
7 that there are only -- that his name is only listed five times
8 out of the 28? Would you agree?

9 A I -- if you're looking at it, then I trust you. I don't
10 -- I don't have it sitting in front of me and I don't recall
11 exactly how many times his name is mentioned.

12 Q Okay. And you'll agree with me that there are two counts
13 in this conspiracy; there's the money laundering and then
14 there's conspiracy to commit fraud. Is that correct?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q And you'll agree with me that David Animashaun is not
17 indicted on the money laundering count, correct?

18 A I believe that's correct.

19 Q Okay. You also mentioned that when you did the search
20 warrant that you found it suspicious that in his library he
21 had books titled *The Power of Persuasion*, things of that
22 nature, right?

23 A Correct.

24 Q Now, you'd agree with me those books are actually targeted
25 for entrepreneurs?

1 A Certainly, entrepreneurs and sales -- people in sales, a
2 lot of times.

3 Q Okay. I actually have that book. You're not saying that
4 I have a tendency to commit fraud; is that correct?

5 A That's correct.

6 Q Okay. Okay. And that, it's actually a really good book.
7 But I just wanted to clear that up.

8 Now, with regards to you said that he had access to
9 multiple bank accounts, but that's all you said about it. So
10 what evidence do you have that he has access to multiple bank
11 accounts?

12 A Are you talking currently? Or --

13 Q Well, all you said --

14 A -- just in general?

15 Q -- was that he had access to multiple bank accounts.

16 A Right. I was -- I was trying to paint a picture of a kind
17 of his involvement, the fraud scheme of his. And I had
18 mentioned that investigators have, over the course of the
19 investigation, identified multiple accounts, and then I cited
20 the one specific with the \$205,000 that was all attributed to
21 victim -- victim money.

22 Q Okay. With regards to his passport, you said that when
23 you did the search warrant you did not find a passport; is
24 that correct?

25 A I believe that's correct.

1 Q Okay. And have you been able to check and confirm that
2 his passport actually expired in 2018?

3 A I have not checked. No, ma'am.

4 Q With regards to any type of fraud with regards to your
5 search warrant, did you find any credit cards with other
6 people's names on it in his -- in the search of his home?

7 A Well, I was not present at the search of his home, but
8 none that I'm aware of.

9 Q Okay. During the search warrant, are you aware, did you
10 find -- did they find any driver's licenses with other
11 people's names on them?

12 A Not that I'm aware of.

13 Q Did you find any driver's licenses with David Animashaun's
14 picture and other people's names on them?

15 A Not that I'm aware of.

16 Q Did you find -- did they find any SIM cards in the search
17 of his home?

18 A None that I'm aware of.

19 Q Okay. Do you -- did they find any firearms?

20 A No, ma'am.

21 Q Do you have any information of him having any kind of
22 violent criminal history?

23 A No, ma'am, I don't.

24 Q Okay. With regards to his trips outside the country, do
25 you have any documentation or any information with regards to

1 any trips outside the country?

2 A No, ma'am, I don't know that.

3 Q With regards to his income, were you aware that just even
4 in the last -- 2020, that he actually earned \$95,000?

5 A I was not aware. No, ma'am.

6 Q Okay. Were you aware that he lives with a partner who
7 actually makes that kind of money as well?

8 A No, ma'am.

9 MS. CROWDER: Pass the witness.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. Any redirect?

11 MS. WALTERS: Just very briefly, Your Honor.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MS. WALTERS:

14 Q Detective, when you were asked a question by Mr. C. Orji's
15 counsel about whether there -- whether there's anything
16 illegitimate about having a credit card reader in a business,
17 I wanted to ask you, was a credit card reader found or was it
18 a credit card skimmer?

19 A It appeared to be a skimmer.

20 Q And what's the difference between the two?

21 A The reader, you can insert, it's meant to enter in a PIN,
22 whereas the skimmer, it's meant to record the information on
23 the card just through the swipe.

24 Q And is it -- is a skimmer used often to put on an ATM
25 machine? It's -- it's not the way a credit card reader is

1 used in a business, correct?

2 A Correct. It's not --

3 Q It's put on top?

4 A It's not a console. It's not a console where you have the
5 numbers to enter in and the screen to display. It's just a
6 swiping device.

7 Q A swiping device? And it's -- are you aware, in your
8 experience as a detective, of a credit card skimmer having
9 legitimate uses?

10 A I don't want to make a declarative statement --

11 Q Okay.

12 A -- a hundred percent either way. Are there potential
13 legitimate reasons to possess it? Perhaps. My experience,
14 typically, those reasons are illegitimate. They're meant for
15 fraud and for theft.

16 Q And if it were a credit card skimmer that was found, would
17 it also be more suspicious that it was found in a bank bag
18 hidden in a freestanding printer?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q Okay. Now, let's turn to a question about -- asked by Mr.
21 Moses' counsel regarding the fake Ghanaian passport.

22 A Right.

23 Q How did the Government -- how did agents learn of the fake
24 Ghanaian passport?

25 A So, Mr. Moses, I referenced the victim, the female victim

1 that he had seduced with a romance scam and convinced her to
2 open up bank accounts in her name, convinced her to receive
3 victim funds, which she didn't know they were victim funds,
4 and then to funnel those proceeds to himself and to other co-
5 conspirators.

6 Mr. Moses, I believe it was his fiancée must have gone
7 through his phone and found this frequent contact with this
8 female victim. We'll call her MK. She actually reached out
9 to this victim and told her, you know, what are you doing with
10 my man? Don't you know that he's, you know, with me?
11 Whatever. And MK, this is news to her, and so they kind of
12 have an exchange back and forth. Mr. Moses' fiancée says,
13 don't you know this was all a romance scam, and says, I can
14 prove that he's Oluwalobamise Moses, and sent to MK, the
15 victim, a copy, a picture of his Ghanaian passport, which
16 investigators were able to determine was a fake.

17 Q So, then let's turn to a question asked by Mr. F. Orji's
18 counsel. He asked about what was found at the house. And I
19 wondered if you might check your notes or refresh your
20 recollection. He asked whether firearms were found in
21 Frederick Orji's apartment.

22 A I'm not aware of any firearms in F. Orji's apartment.

23 Q And this is even in the -- even in the safe where the
24 \$150,000 in cash was found, and passports?

25 A I don't know about that.

1 Q Okay. And then let's turn to the last questions. With
2 respect to Mr. Animashaun, you were asked about accounts that
3 he had, and I think there may have -- might have been some
4 confusion as to whether accounts he had were -- were current
5 or in the past. Do you -- based on the search warrant, is
6 there information that he has current -- access to current
7 foreign bank accounts?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. Thank you.

10 MS. WALTERS: No further questions for this witness.

11 THE COURT: Any -- anything else from any of the
12 Defense Attorneys for this witness?

13 MR. COKER: Briefly, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. COKER:

17 Q Christopher Coker for Mr. Moses.

18 A I'm sorry, sir. I can't hear you.

19 Q Oh. Let me -- I'll just move over here. It's hard for me
20 to look that way anyway. Christopher Coker for Mr. Moses.
21 You talked about how the Ghanaian passport was, I guess,
22 identified to Mr. Moses, correct? And you referred to the
23 lady as his fiancée?

24 A I know there was some sort of dating relationship. They
25 were married or engaged, something of that sort.

1 Q Well, it was his ex-wife.

2 A Okay.

3 Q Would that -- would that make more sense?

4 A That's certainly possible.

5 Q Okay. And his ex-wife and him did not separate on good
6 terms. And his ex-wife was dealing in schemes and fraudulent
7 passports at the time. Would that make sense, that he would
8 maybe not know about this passport, this Ghanaian passport
9 that she sent to him, if that was what she was doing at the
10 time, fraud, you know, fraudulently making -- making
11 fraudulent passports?

12 A I'm not sure what his ex-wife is involved in or what the
13 nature of their relationship is, and I can't really speak to
14 whether or not she was involved in any sort of criminal
15 activity.

16 Q Okay. And you took his phone, correct, when -- during the
17 search warrant?

18 A I believe his phone was seized. Yes, sir.

19 Q And you intend to search it. Correct?

20 A That's my understanding.

21 Q Okay. And when you search it, there -- if there's
22 information on there confirming that his ex-wife was just
23 trying to get him in trouble and was doing this in order to
24 get back at him, you would find that, too, correct? If you
25 searched the phone?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Okay.

3 A I don't know the status of the device, but I'm sure if
4 he's willing to provide his password, the FBI would be more
5 than happy to look at that.

6 Q Okay. And you mentioned in this case there's not just
7 romance fraud but there's also ID fraud, correct? ID fraud?

8 A ID fraud?

9 Q Yes.

10 A Yes. There's identity theft. Yes, sir.

11 Q Okay. Identity theft. And you've seen in cases where
12 it's just not victims? Codefendants do it to other
13 codefendants, correct, because they have their information as
14 well sometimes, right?

15 A That can happen. Yes, sir.

16 Q And so everything that you've seen with Mr. Moses, you've
17 never seen him do anything personally, it's just all through
18 computers and numbers and something that, you know, a
19 Match.com account that anybody can set up, correct?

20 A Right, because we, like I said, we can't identify who's
21 behind the computer screen, but we can trace the money, and he
22 is a direct recipient of victim funds, and he was also in
23 possession of multiple pages of personal identifying
24 information, to include names, phone numbers, addresses,
25 Social Security numbers.

1 That's what leads me to believe that he's involved in this
2 scheme and not a victim.

3 Q Yes. But money can be sent to an account and he can take
4 that money out and give to somebody, right?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Okay. And so it might not -- it might not have benefited
7 him directly. He might have gotten paid something for getting
8 in money and taking it out, but he might not be necessarily
9 the person who did it. Right?

10 A Right. I don't know what his share was. That's accurate.

11 Q Okay.

12 MR. COKER: Nothing further, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: All right. You may step down,
14 Detective. Thank you.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you, ma'am.

16 (The witness steps down.)

17 THE COURT: Anything else from the Government?

18 MS. WALTERS: No, Your Honor. The Government rests.

19 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Cunningham, anything from
20 -- for Mr. Orji?

21 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. C. Orji?

23 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'd call the first witness, Mr. Gary
24 Davis.

25 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Davis, if you would

Davis - Direct

66

1 please come forward and raise your right hand for me.

2 (The witness is sworn.)

3 THE COURT: Please be seated and please speak up into
4 that microphone for me.

5 GARY DAVIS, DEFENDANT C. ORJI'S WITNESS, SWORN

6 DIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

8 Q Please state your name.

9 A Gary Davis.

10 Q And sir, would you detail for the Court your employment
11 and education background?

12 A Certainly. I'm an immigration lawyer. I've been
13 practicing immigration law since 2000. Graduated from the
14 University of Texas as an attorney. I became board-certified
15 in immigration and nationality law in 2005. And I've had my
16 own firm, Davis & Associates, since 2007.

17 Q And do you know Mr. C. Orji?

18 A I do.

19 Q And how?

20 A You said how?

21 Q Yes.

22 A He has been my client for immigration processing for over
23 ten years now, I believe. So a long time.

24 Q And would you please tell the Court his actual status to
25 be in this country?

1 A Certainly. There's a little bit of history, so if I go
2 too rambly, just let me know.

3 Basically, he entered the country legally, and by the time
4 he became my client he was facing deportation proceedings at
5 the time. He was married to his spouse, who is in the
6 courtroom today. He had filed an I-130 petition with
7 Immigration, which is the petition that is filed with U.S.
8 Citizenship & Immigration Services to pursue permanent
9 resident status. Eventually, that application or petition was
10 approved.

11 He was then -- we had several hearings with Immigration
12 Court -- all of which he attended, by the way -- as well as
13 interviews with the Immigration Service, all of which he
14 attended. And the Immigration judge, after meeting his wife,
15 understanding about their relationship, seeing the approved
16 petition from USCIS at the time, he terminated deportation
17 proceedings.

18 So I saw a report -- maybe I shouldn't speak to this --
19 but there was a report that said it was suspended, but all --
20 it's actually terminated. He is --

21 Q The report -- was the --

22 THE COURT: Can --

23 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

24 Q The probation officer does a very quick --

25 A Oh, I see.

1 THE COURT: I'm going to -- I'm going to stop right
2 there. I'm going to ask you to please move the microphone
3 back over.

4 MR. COKER: I'm sorry, Judge. That's probably my
5 fault. I moved it.

6 THE COURT: Well, we're not -- there's not any fault
7 here. We just need to be able to hear people.

8 MR. COKER: Sure. I can hear him. Just, I'm sorry.

9 THE WITNESS: So I apologize if I spoke out of -- out
10 of turn. It wasn't my intention. But --

11 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

12 Q So, Mr. Davis, --

13 A -- the termination is -- sorry. Termination is the actual
14 term for what happened with the deportation case. So that is
15 not currently pending with the Immigration Court.

16 Q So, the Probation officer does a very quick summary for
17 the judge, and you take issue with the note on this that
18 deportation proceedings are suspended? You were there; they
19 were actually terminated by --

20 A Correct.

21 Q -- the IJ, correct?

22 A That is correct. Yeah. And they're no longer pending. I
23 would think of suspension as some sort of administrative
24 closure or something where it's still pending but has been,
25 you know, delayed in some way or something like that. But

1 that's not true. It's actually been completely terminated, at
2 least at this point.

3 THE COURT: I'm sorry. You're -- I'm having trouble
4 understanding you.

5 THE WITNESS: Oh, I apologize. So, the deportation
6 proceedings that were in process against Mr. Orji were
7 terminated by the Immigration judge. And since that time,
8 currently he has an application for permanent residence
9 pending with USCIS, as well as a petition through his spouse.
10 And the reason we had to refile that case is because, after
11 the approval of his first petition through his current spouse,
12 USCIS had some concerns about a previous marriage
13 relationship, and they revoked that approved petition, did not
14 opt to put him back in the deportation proceedings, and
15 instead we filed an appeal of that decision and we filed a new
16 petition for permanent residence, which is currently pending
17 with USCIS.

18 So, technically, his immigration status currently is
19 pending application for adjustment of status, which is the
20 technical term for a green card application, through his U.S.
21 citizen spouse, and he has employment authorization, which is
22 valid today. In addition to that, he has filed -- I think it
23 expires in November or something. And so he has filed an
24 application, and it's currently pending, to -- to, I guess,
25 extend or to renew that work authorization.

1 Q And that most recent application, you received that back
2 on June 21st of '21 for his renewal --

3 A For the renewal. Yes, sir. We --

4 Q -- of his current --

5 A We typically file the renewal five or six months in
6 advance of the expiration, just to give USCIS time to process
7 that application before the current one expires.

8 Q And in this situation, who is better able to provide
9 current information, USCIS or ICE?

10 A So, ICE and USCIS are both agencies under the Department
11 of Homeland Security. However, ICE is responsible for
12 managing enforcement operations for DHS. USCIS is responsible
13 for managing benefits applications. And so the better source
14 for the information of what the current status is for Mr. Orji
15 in this particular case would be USCIS, not ICE.

16 Q Would you explain to the Court the term detainers?

17 A Absolutely. So, this is my understanding from a
18 functional standpoint. I know there's regulatory authority
19 and things like that for detainers. But, functionally, the
20 way they work is when law enforcement agencies at any level
21 take someone into custody and they cannot confirm that the
22 person is a United States citizen, that leads to a detainer
23 being placed on them just as a matter of course.

24 And the purpose for the detainer is, if that law
25 enforcement agency or under whatever circumstances the person

1 is going to be released from whatever custody, that agency is
2 responsible to notify ICE and give them 48 hours before that
3 person is released to decide whether or not they will come and
4 take that person into their custody.

5 If the 48 hours pass and ICE has chosen not to engage,
6 then the person is supposed to be released. Doesn't always
7 happen, but often it does. And if ICE does come and have a
8 communication with that person and decides to take them into
9 custody, at that point they can make their own determination
10 about whether or not to grant a bond, or we can -- we have the
11 option to go to an Immigration judge and ask for a bond
12 separately.

13 The detainer just is the functional mechanism that allows
14 ICE to be notified before that law enforcement agency that has
15 the person in their custody and who also is not a U.S. citizen
16 is released back into the public.

17 Q You understand the decision that Judge Ramirez has to make
18 today? If she grants Mr. C. Orji a bond in this matter, and
19 whatever conditions she wishes to place on him, what, in your
20 opinion, will happen when he is released from federal custody
21 in this case?

22 A Well, my expectation would be, considering the gravity of
23 the charges and the size of, you know, the group that's been
24 indicted and that kind of thing, that ICE is going to have an
25 interest in having a conversation with Mr. Orji.

1 They will review his history. They'll see that he has no
2 criminal convictions in the past. I assume also -- some of
3 you may have heard that there was a -- from -- Secretary
4 Mayorkas released a policy memorandum yesterday, as DHS
5 Secretary, basically instructing ICE on -- under what
6 circumstances they should be exercising their authority to
7 detain someone or to pursue deportation against someone. And
8 based on those instructions, based on the fact that he has no
9 criminal history, and other circumstances, like the fact that
10 he has significant family ties, including his spouse and his
11 children that are all U.S. citizens, the fact that he's always
12 appeared at every hearing or interview that the Government has
13 ever scheduled with him, and those kinds of considerations,
14 and the fact that this criminal case is pending, not -- he's
15 not been convicted of anything at this point, but it's a
16 pending charge, and he has a benefits application pending with
17 USCIS, my expectation is that, at the very least, they will
18 set a bond for him.

19 Now, they may choose to not, and then we'd have to an
20 Immigration judge. But I also feel very confident, if we had
21 to go take this matter to an Immigration judge, for all of
22 those reasons -- oh, by the way, there's one other reason. If
23 he is back into deportation proceedings, because he could be,
24 he's overstayed his visa, right? He's deportable from the
25 country as a visa overstay. However, he's also eligible for a

1 benefit through the Immigration system through his wife, who
2 has the pending petition. If it's ultimately approved, he can
3 become a permanent resident through that.

4 But also there's a benefit to people facing deportation.
5 It's called cancellation of removal for non-permanent
6 residents. And it's basically a green card through time and
7 with significant family ties to the U.S., which Mr. Orji has
8 all of those, and no barring criminal record, which at this
9 point he does not have. So he would also be eligible to seek
10 relief from the Immigration judge in that forum or through his
11 wife and her petition.

12 So, because he has a benefit available to him to legalize
13 his status on a permanent basis -- two, in fact -- because of
14 the family ties, no criminal history, at least no criminal
15 record of convictions, that I think the Immigration judge
16 would be willing to grant some sort of bond in his situation,
17 if the judge found it necessary.

18 But, again, when he meets with ICE and they see that
19 history, the recent policy memo from Secretary Mayorkas and
20 all those things, I think there's a decent chance that they
21 decide that they'll keep monitoring him in some way as they
22 watch this criminal matter develop, but then they probably
23 would -- would choose to release him, or at least set a bond
24 on their own.

25 Q Thank you.

1 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Pass the witness.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MS. WALTERS:

4 Q So, if I understood you correctly, he has an application
5 for a permanent residency status, --

6 A Correct.

7 Q -- correct?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q And that does not protect him from deportation, does it?

10 A It does, actually.

11 Q No, actually, excuse me, it -- you can't have -- you -- it
12 is possible to have both an application pending and also have
13 deportation proceedings.

14 A Well, yes, he could be put into deportation proceedings.

15 Q Thank you.

16 A Yes, that's correct.

17 Q So he is a visa overstay?

18 A That's correct.

19 Q And you understand that he does have a detainer from ICE
20 today?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Regardless of what happens in the future, he has a
23 detainer today?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay.

A. Orji - Direct

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1 MS. WALTERS: No further questions for this witness.

2 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Davis, you may step down.

3 THE WITNESS: Thank you, ma'am.

4 THE COURT: Oh, is there any redirect?

5 MR. CUNNINGHAM: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. You may step down.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Thank you.

9 (The witness steps down.)

10 THE COURT: Anything else on behalf of Mr. C. Orji?

11 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Call his wife. Alicia Orji.

12 THE COURT: All right. And remember, you have a
13 fifteen-minute limit, and you're close.

14 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I know. He's longwinded. Excuse
15 me.

16 THE COURT: If you'll please raise your right hand.

17 (The witness is sworn.)

18 THE COURT: Please be seated.

19 ALICIA ORJI, DEFENDANT C. ORJI'S WITNESS, SWORN

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:

22 Q Please state your name for the record.

23 A Alicia Orji.

24 Q And how are you employed?

25 A I work at a community college, Dallas Community College.

1 I'm an adjunct professor.

2 Q And you grew up in Dallas?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q Went to Booker T. Washington?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q And what's your education background?

7 A I graduated from the University of Oklahoma, and I also
8 traveled to New York where I studied with Alvin Ailey American
9 Dance School. And then from there I graduated from Texas
10 Women's University with an MFA degree.

11 Q And you have a master's also?

12 A Yes, I do.

13 Q You understand we've got a time limit here. How long have
14 you and your husband, C. Orji, been married?

15 A Almost eleven years.

16 Q How many children do you have?

17 A We have three children.

18 Q What type of business does he have?

19 A My husband has a car dealership, a used car dealership.

20 Q And how many cars were seized as a result of the search
21 warrant?

22 A I would say about eighty.

23 Q These -- he had notes that he was collecting weekly or
24 monthly payments for these cars, correct?

25 A That's correct.

A. Orji - Direct

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1 Q And all of this now has fallen on you?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Can you keep up?

4 A I'm struggling.

5 Q You've got a full-time job, three kids, and now --

6 A Yes.

7 Q -- a you-tow-'em lot that you're trying to find these
8 notes and collect payments, correct?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q You heard your lawyer, our immigration lawyer, testify
11 that he's eligible to become a permanent legal resident?

12 A Yes.

13 Q He hasn't left this country in how many years?

14 A Since two thousand -- never. Since he's been here.
15 Never. He hasn't. He was here 2007, I think.

16 Q You brought his current Nigerian passport here to court
17 today?

18 A Yes.

19 Q You understand if the judge releases him you're going to
20 have to post this with the Clerk of the Court?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And he will not be able to leave the Northern District of
23 Texas? You understand that?

24 A Yes.

25 Q How long have you owned your home that you live in in

A. Orji - Direct

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1 DeSoto?

2 A Since 2013.

3 Q And have -- and you and your husband and three kids live
4 in the house that you own?

5 A Correct.

6 Q He's never been to Nigeria or left this country?

7 A No. Nothing.

8 Q Have you?

9 A No.

10 Q Does he have any place to go?

11 A No, sir.

12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Pass the witness.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MS. WALTERS:

15 Q Were you at the house when the search warrant was
16 executed?

17 A Yes, I was.

18 Q And did you see agents leave with a variety of different
19 objects?

20 A No, I did not.

21 Q So you didn't see agents leave with -- with anything?

22 A They allowed me to leave to take my children to school.

23 Q Okay. Are -- and are you aware that your husband had two
24 firearms?

25 A No.

A. Orji - Cross

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1 Q You've never seen him with firearms?

2 A I've seen one, yes.

3 Q Okay.

4 A At the -- yes. At -- not at home. Yes.

5 Q Not at home, but in your husband's possession?

6 A Yes. Because he's been robbed before at his shop. Yeah.

7 Q Okay.

8 MS. WALTERS: No further questions for this witness.

9 THE COURT: Anything else?

10 MR. CUNNINGHAM: No, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Ms. Orji, you may step down.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Thank you.

14 (The witness steps down.)

15 THE COURT: Anything else on behalf of Mr. C. Orji?

16 MR. CUNNINGHAM: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right. I forgot the order. Was it
18 Mr. Moses who was next?

19 MR. COKER: Yes, Your Honor. No witnesses.

20 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Coker?

21 MR. COKER: Yes, Your Honor. No witnesses.

22 THE COURT: Okay. And then for Mr. F. Orji, Mr.
23 Watson?

24 MR. WATSON: Yes, Your Honor. May it please the
25 Court.

1 THE COURT: Can we get the microphone over by you?

2 MR. WATSON: Yes, Your Honor. With leave of the
3 Court, I have a -- I have two copies of a -- of a passport.
4 I've got a Nigerian passport, a U.S. passport, and a
5 certificate of naturalization, and I'd like to -- I don't have
6 extra copies, but I'll show it to the prosecutor right now and
7 then present it to the Court.

8 THE COURT: Well, it would have been nice to have
9 shown it to the prosecutor before, but let's do that.

10 MR. WATSON: I know, Judge. I -- it's -- but that's
11 how life is. Or it is for me, anyway, Judge.

12 (Pause.)

13 MR. WATSON: May I approach, Judge?

14 THE COURT: You may.

15 (Pause.)

16 MR. WATSON: And Judge, what I'd like to do, if I
17 may, is to make copies for everybody and get those back.

18 (Pause.)

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 MR. WATSON: And Judge, I'd like for you to, I guess,
21 admit it for the record, and I'll supplement them or give them

22 --

23 THE COURT: You --

24 MR. WATSON: That's what I'll do, is --

25 THE COURT: You can file them of record if you would

1 like. But it would be good to provide copies to the
2 Government.

3 MR. WATSON: Yes.

4 THE COURT: I've seen them.

5 MR. WATSON: That's --

6 THE COURT: But if you're formally moving to --

7 MR. WATSON: Yes.

8 THE COURT: -- to admit them, then this is time for
9 us to take that up.

10 MR. WATSON: Yes. Yes, I move to admit these three
11 exhibits into evidence on behalf of Freddy -- of Frederick
12 Orji in this hearing before the Court.

13 MS. WALTERS: No objection, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Admitted.

15 (Defendant F. Orji's Exhibits 1 through 3 are received
16 into evidence.)

17 THE COURT: Anything else?

18 MR. WATSON: No, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. For Mr. Animashaun?

20 MS. CROWDER: Your Honor, I'd call Light (phonetic)
21 Osasona.

22 THE COURT: Okay. And, ma'am, if you would please
23 come forward and raise your right hand for me.

24 (The witness is sworn.)

25 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to ask you to be

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1 seated and to please speak up. Your voice is very soft, so
2 I'm having a hard time hearing you, so speak up.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay.

4 IMOLEAYO OSASONA, DEFENDANT ANIMASHAUN'S WITNESS, SWORN
5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MS. CROWDER:

7 Q Could you state your name for the record and spell it,
8 please?

9 A My name is Imoleayo Osasona, preferably called Light.

10 Q Okay.

11 A I-M-O-L-E-A-Y-O. And my last name, O-S-A-S-O-N-A. Okay.

12 Q And you are -- what is your relationship to David
13 Animashaun?

14 A I'm his partner, but he usually like to call me sister.

15 Q Okay. But typically he calls you his sister but you're
16 not really his biological sister; is that correct?

17 A Yes. Yes.

18 Q Do you all have a child together?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. And where do you -- and how -- what's your child's
21 name and age?

22 A My child's name is David Tinilolua (phonetic) Osasona, and
23 he turned one on Wednesday.

24 Q Okay. Now, with regards to -- I went over the Pretrial
25 Services report with you that -- where a pretrial officer

1 interviews David prior to coming to the detention hearing; is
2 that correct?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And there are things -- it stated that they called you but
5 you didn't answer. But your phone was taken when they did the
6 search warrant at your home; is that correct?

7 A Yes. My phone was taken.

8 Q Okay. So you're here to verify the information that was
9 requested by the Pretrial Services report; is that correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Or officer. Where do you reside?

12 A Currently, we reside at 204 Daylily Drive, Wylie.

13 Q And who owns that home?

14 A Myself and David.

15 Q And when did you both buy this home?

16 A We closed the home January 2021.

17 Q And you and I have had an opportunity to -- well, you
18 submitted documents to me to provide to this Court at this
19 hearing; is that correct?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And to save time, we're just going to go through them, I'm
22 going to ask you questions, and at the end I will admit them,
23 I will request that the judge admit them into evidence. Is
24 that okay with you?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. Did you print out a property search document from
2 the Collin County Appraisal District that states that you and
3 David actually own this home together?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And I'm going to, at the end, that would be
6 Defendant's Exhibit No. 1.

7 How long have you -- and how long have you all owned that
8 home?

9 A Eight months.

10 Q Okay. Prior to purchasing that home, where did you and
11 David live?

12 A We live in Garland. 6205 North President George Bush
13 Highway.

14 Q Okay. And that address is actually listed in the Pretrial
15 Services report; is that correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Okay. How long did you live there?

18 A Two years.

19 Q Okay. Now, what -- do you have any education?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And could you tell the Court?

22 A I studied educational management in Nigeria in -- it's a
23 state university. And after that I went to Istanbul, Turkey,
24 and I have my master's in political science and international
25 relations.

1 Q Okay. Are you aware of David's education?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And what is that?

4 A He has a bachelor's degree.

5 Q And do you know what he has a bachelor's degree in?

6 A He has a bachelor's degree in management.

7 Q Okay. With regards to David's passport, were you aware
8 that he had a passport?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. And do you know where it is?

11 A It was taken by the FBI.

12 Q Okay. And do you know if it's expired?

13 A Yes.

14 Q How do you --

15 A 2018.

16 Q How do you know it's expired?

17 A Because he tried to renew it and he had an appointment in
18 Atlanta and then COVID, he wasn't able to go.

19 Q Okay. To your knowledge, has David left -- when was the
20 last time that David left the country?

21 A In 2017 when his father died.

22 Q Okay. And the purpose was to bury his father?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Where are you employed?

25 A I'm employed with Covia Solution as a due diligence

1 underwriter.

2 Q Okay. And how much money do you make?

3 A I make over \$6,000. Monthly.

4 Q Six thousand monthly?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Are you aware of David's employment status?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And what is that?

9 A He's an internal auditor, and his contract with Robert
10 Half just ended last -- two weeks ago on Friday.

11 Q Okay. And you all, when purchasing your home in February
12 of 2021, did you both have to provide income verification in
13 order to get this loan?

14 A Yes. We provided two years.

15 Q Okay. And how much was your home?

16 A Our home was 445.

17 Q Okay. So, together, you both make close to \$200,000?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Is your -- is David also employed with his church?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And is that your church as well?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. Did you provide pictures for me from the actual
24 church website that actually has him with a guitar and in a
25 band for that church?

1 A Yes, I did.

2 Q Okay. And did you also provide to me a 1099 from the
3 church that actually states how much money he earns from the
4 church?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And is that approximately in the amount of \$13,256.67 in
7 2017?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. And did you also provide to me ADP payroll stubs
10 that verify that David earns \$50 an hour?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. And his paychecks that you've provided to me and
13 that I've already provided to the Government, he grossed -- he
14 -- his checks are anywhere between \$3,000 to \$4,000 every pay
15 period?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Do you have any concerns with regards to David's health?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And what is that?

20 A I have documents from doctor's appointment that shows that
21 David has high blood pressure and Stage 3 kidney disease.

22 Q Okay. And so you've actually provided me a document from
23 the Dallas Nephrology Associates that actually states that he
24 has been diagnosed with chronic kidney disease, Stage 3. Is
25 that correct?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And we will provide that over to the judge here; is that
3 correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q You've also provided me documents that you both own --
6 well, you both have two cars in your name; is that correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. And you provided me those documents. Both cars are
9 in your name; is that correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And in --

12 A My name and David's name.

13 Q And David's name. And what cars are those?

14 A That's a Toyota Highlander and a Mercedes.

15 Q Okay. And you both -- so they are leased documents, is
16 that -- I mean, leased cars; is that correct?

17 A Yes.

18 MS. WALTERS: I'm sorry. Could you repeat that? I
19 missed that. I just didn't hear it.

20 MS. CROWDER: They're leased cars.

21 MS. WALTERS: They're leased cars?

22 MS. CROWDER: Leased cars.

23 THE WITNESS: Lease agreement.

24 MS. WALTERS: Okay.

25 MS. CROWDER: Yes.

1 BY MS. CROWDER:

2 Q Do you have any concerns that David will flee the country
3 or flee -- or flee the country and not show up to court?

4 A No.

5 Q Okay. Would you -- are you agreeing to be a third-party
6 custodian in this case?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Would you assist David in coming to court or
9 anything that this -- or any condition that the Judge believes
10 is appropriate if he is released today?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Now, the Pretrial Services report states that he -- it
13 states that he has a wife; is that correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. And does he have a wife?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Okay. And are they separated?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And where does his wife live?

20 A Euclid, Ohio.

21 Q In Ohio?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. They do not live in your home in Wylie?

24 A No.

25 Q So that was some -- that was a miscommunication somehow?

1 A Yes.

2 MS. CROWDER: Your Honor, at this time I'd like to
3 admit Defendant's Exhibit 1 through 8. They have all been
4 previously --

5 THE COURT: Been previously--?

6 MS. CROWDER: I'm sorry. They've all been previously
7 presented to the federal prosecutor.

8 THE COURT: All right. Any objection?

9 MS. WALTERS: No, ma'am.

10 THE COURT: Admitted.

11 (Defendant Animashaun's Exhibits 1 through 8 are received
12 into evidence.)

13 MS. CROWDER: My I approach, Your Honor?

14 THE COURT: You may.

15 MS. CROWDER: For the record, it's Defendant's
16 Exhibits 1 through 8.

17 BY MS. CROWDER:

18 Q All right. Are you asking this Court to release David
19 into your care?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And is that so that he can get proper care for his Stage 3
22 chronic kidney disease?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. And also so that he can start working?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay.

2 MS. CROWDER: Pass the witness.

3 THE COURT: Cross?

4 MS. WALTERS: No cross, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. You may step down. Thank
6 you.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

8 (The witness steps down.)

9 THE COURT: Anything else on behalf of Mr.
10 Animashaun?

11 MS. CROWDER: No, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right. Did I miss anybody?

13 (No response.)

14 THE COURT: No? Okay.

15 MR. WATSON: One second, Your Honor, if I may. I
16 think I've got a few minutes left, I hope. Do -- if -- is --
17 if the Court -- if it would help the Court, I do have a
18 civilian. He's a -- he's a Nigerian individual. He lives in
19 the U.S. He's not a citizen. We would do a proffer that he
20 is willing to be a custodian or a surety for my client.

21 THE COURT: All right. So what would you like to do?

22 MR. WATSON: I'll call him as a witness.

23 THE COURT: All right. If you would please raise
24 your right hand.

25 (The witness is sworn.)

1 THE COURT: Please be seated and please speak up into
2 that microphone for me.

3 SOMTOOCHUKWU CHIKEBEBE, DEFENDANT F. ORJI'S WITNESS, SWORN

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. WATSON:

6 Q Sir, you and I met this morning, correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And I want you to spell your first name slowly.

9 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to stop for a
10 minute.

11 (Pause.)

12 THE COURT: Okay. Got it.

13 BY MR. WATSON:

14 Q Okay. Sir, I want you to spell your first name slowly for
15 the record and then spell your last name slowly.

16 A S-O-M-T-O-O-C-H-U-K-W-U, C-H-I-K-E-B-E-B-E.

17 Q And how long have you known Freddy Orji?

18 A For over two years.

19 Q Okay. And you are applying -- or, you have your green
20 card, correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And if the Court -- if Judge Ramirez was willing to allow
23 him to get out on supervised -- or not on supervised release,
24 but get out on bond, would you represent to the Court that you
25 would report to the Court if he indicated that he was going to

1 leave town or did leave town?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And if the Court asks you to check in periodically with
4 the Court about where he is and what he's doing, would you be
5 willing to do that?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you -- and you know where he lives?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And you're able to communicate with the Probation
10 Department and, like we talked about in the hallway, basically
11 act a surety and assure the Court that he won't -- he won't be
12 a law breaker, he won't leave the -- he won't leave the
13 district, and he'll report as the Probation Department directs
14 him to report; --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- is that correct?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And he'll make all his court dates, correct?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And like we realized earlier, he is a U.S. citizen,
21 correct?

22 A Yes.

23 MR. WATSON: That's all I have, Judge.

24 THE COURT: All right. Any cross-examination?

25 MS. WALTERS: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. You may step down, sir.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. WATSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5 (The witness steps down.)

6 THE COURT: Let's hear argument.

7 MS. WALTERS: Okay. Your Honor, if I might have just
8 a moment while I'm organizing.

9 (Pause.)

10 MS. WALTERS: Your Honor, the Government believes
11 that there are no conditions or combination of conditions that
12 will reasonably assure the appearance of these -- any of these
13 defendants or the safety of another person or the community if
14 they are released.

15 I thought I would go in order, in alphabetical order,
16 starting with Mr. Animashaun. With respect to Mr. Animashaun,
17 the greatest concerns are that he has used other names --
18 David Brown, David Benson. There were receipts found in the
19 car in one of these names. So this is not as though it is --
20 these are names that are the leaseholders or someone else.
21 These are currently -- these are current names that have
22 current -- where there is current information found two weeks
23 ago during the search warrant.

24 But more important than those two names are the multiple
25 pages of personal identifying information at the house. It

1 doesn't matter whether the names are names of U.S. citizens or
2 foreigners -- it appears that they were Chinese -- but it was
3 multiple note pages of PII with Chinese names, FICO scores,
4 amounts next to them. That's extremely concerning, because
5 that is part and parcel of what the schemes, whether they're
6 romance or unemployment fraud or business email compromise,
7 need to perpetrate. They need the PII, and Mr. Animashaun has
8 it currently.

9 He has current bank accounts in Nigeria. He also has --
10 he's the one who had the library of books of persuasion. Now,
11 the Government does not suggest that the books are illegal.
12 The Government suggests that he's a professional fraudster.
13 He is someone who is learning how to persuade individuals,
14 which is what one needs to do to be a successful romance
15 scammer. And he is someone who directly received romance scam
16 victim funds.

17 He had only a few hundred dollars in net income in 2017,
18 and yet more than \$200,000 of victim funds in cash in one
19 single -- deposited into one single account.

20 When looking at the totality of those circumstances, he is
21 a financial danger. It is ongoing.

22 And finally, I would like to note that Mr. Animashaun may
23 be living currently with his wife, but if we look at Page 2 of
24 the Pretrial Services report, there are multiple addresses in
25 a very short period of time. If we -- I believe that there

1 are at least five addresses over the course of just a few
2 years.

3 That presents a significant concern that he doesn't
4 actually have a stable residence, that he doesn't -- and that
5 he is willing to go somewhere else.

6 Because of the lack of current employment, significant
7 ties to Nigeria with the bank accounts, the possession of
8 current PII, and his prior receipt of victim funds, the
9 Government believes that there are no conditions or
10 combination of conditions that can reasonably assure the
11 safety of the community or his appearance in Court.

12 Moving to Mr. C. Orji, I note first that even Mr. C.
13 Orji's witness, an immigration attorney, acknowledged there is
14 a detainer in place. He is someone who has -- who was
15 indicted for conduct in 2017, but since then admitted to an
16 undercover agent in a meeting that he participated in
17 cybercrime and fraud and cleans money in 2019.

18 He's had 24 bank accounts.

19 When the search warrant was run, there was an ID in a fake
20 name but with his photo on it, and a fake name with a debit
21 card on it. Again, the use of aliases doesn't merely indicate
22 the risk of flight, but it makes it incredibly difficult for
23 law enforcement to find this individual if he is released into
24 the community.

25 But in addition to the fake name and the fake debit cards,

1 there was the -- there were the materials that were found at
2 OCS Motors, his business, that included Green Dot cards,
3 credit card skimmers, a credit card writer, and a passport for
4 someone else. This is very unusual for someone who would just
5 be running a car dealership. He had a passport for someone
6 else. Agents also seized two guns from Mr. Orji at his house.

7 Now, there was quite a bit of testimony about how Mr. Orji
8 has repeatedly appeared in front of immigration proceedings.
9 We don't doubt that. He benefits when he appears in front of
10 immigration judges and CIS officers because he is seeking a
11 benefit and he must appear in front of them to obtain that
12 benefit. He's in a very, very different position here when
13 he's been charged not just with conspiracy to commit wire
14 fraud but also money laundering and faces 30 years in prison.

15 Given that he has multiple accounts, is willing to use
16 fake names, and has a plethora of material that can create or
17 facilitate fraud with the Green Dot cards, the credit card
18 skimmers, and has admitted committing cybercrime, fraud, and
19 cleaning money, we do not believe that he would be likely to
20 appear in the future if released. And nevertheless, we are
21 confident that ICE would appear to pick him up on the detainer
22 should he be released from this Court.

23 Finally, let's turn next to Mr. F. Orji. Mr. F. Orji has
24 had fifteen trips since becoming a legal permanent resident,
25 including travel to Nigeria in 2021. When his brother's

1 phone, E. Orji, Emanuel Orji's phone was seized -- that's the
2 first one that has been analyzed -- there were current chats
3 with his brother in 2021 about what agents believe to be
4 structuring. Driving to different locations to pick up money
5 orders or cashier's checks or postal money orders in a short
6 succession of time appears to be structuring, which suggests
7 he's continuing to engage in conduct in which he needs to hide
8 the money. He needs to figure out how to conceal what he's
9 doing from law enforcement.

10 But beyond that, for an individual who was recently
11 unemployed, according to Texas Workforce Commission, he had
12 \$150,000 in cash in a safe as well as 48,000 naira.

13 And finally, the 250 stored-value cards. That's an
14 enormous amount of -- that's an enormous amount of stored-
15 value cards for any one person to have. He received victim
16 funds directly, and has also been charged in money laundering.
17 Given that he now faces 30 years in prison, I don't believe
18 that he would be likely to appear, and he certainly has the
19 means and the familiarity to travel abroad.

20 Then, turning to the last individual, Mr. Moses, we have
21 Mr. Moses as a direct recipient of victim funds and also
22 someone who directed others, directed another victim, whose
23 initials were mentioned, MK, to open bank accounts and receive
24 and send money. So he was very much involved in the scheme.
25 But also we know that he has a fake Ghanaian passport, a

1 Malaysian driver's license, has used aliases that agents are
2 familiar with, including George Mike and George Williams.

3 There's no indication of employment under Texas Workforce
4 Commission since second quarter of 2020. He has multiple
5 accounts. He had the phone -- the multiple unused SIM cards,
6 which could easily facilitate the biggest concern agents have,
7 which is the extensive PII with names, addresses, birthdates,
8 Social Security numbers, sometimes bank numbers, and at the
9 top of those notes, the phone number to call from.

10 So this isn't something that it's just it's interesting
11 that he has. This is a scheme. This is current. And he
12 knows that he needs to be savvy about how to commit these
13 crimes by dialing from different numbers.

14 For these reasons, we don't believe that Mr. Moses can be
15 released on any conditions into the community.

16 Oh, and let me, before I -- before I complete this, let me
17 make sure that there's nothing else.

18 (Pause.)

19 MS. WALTERS: Your Honor, I have nothing else.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Cunningham?

21 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I don't like sitting down, but I
22 will, Judge.

23 Obviously, the tail wagging of the dog for Mr. C. Orji is
24 the immigration issue. I think we have brought clear and
25 convincing evidence to the Court that he is a legal status,

1 that he has a work permit, and that he is in process of having
2 that renewed. Just yesterday, Secretary Mayorkas issued new
3 guidelines for the ICE agents to review cases just like this.
4 It's on Page 1A of *The Dallas Morning News* of his statements
5 that he made yesterday directing ICE agents to release people
6 if they are non-violent, non-sex-predator felons.

7 He is charged with a financial crime. He has lived in his
8 home here in Dallas for over a decade. He has a wife, three
9 kids, and his own business. You heard that the Government
10 seized eighty vehicles from his lot. He still has those notes
11 that he -- for the cars that he has sold and are out on the
12 street that he needs to collect those funds from the people
13 who have purchased cars from him.

14 So he has -- the Government made a big deal about he had a
15 shotgun. Well, he's been robbed. When people came, robbed
16 him at his store, or at the car lot, he got a shotgun. This
17 is Texas. That's not unusual.

18 And we have proven that he has nowhere to go. He has not
19 left this country since he came here over fifteen years ago.

20 Judge, this person does not pose a danger to our community
21 because I know you'll -- I know you'll -- if you order a bond,
22 that you won't let him open any new bank accounts. He'll be
23 able to run his business and go home and that's it.

24 And especially when we're talking about these type of
25 financial crimes, the Government will typically give me a

1 here's a terabyte of information, you know, eat this. And
2 when you're trying to evaluate this type of case with someone
3 who is in custody in Limestone County or Johnson County and
4 you try to do it, you know, either on Zoom or you go there
5 through the glass, it is very, very, very difficult to prepare
6 an adequate defense for this type of case.

7 He's not going anywhere but to DeSoto. And if you tell
8 him to be here, he will be here.

9 Thank you, Your Honor.

10 MR. COKER: Yes, Your Honor. I'd like to proffer the
11 Pretrial Services report. And just to point out, he's been in
12 this country since 2016. He's a legal -- a lapper. And he
13 has two children. His -- he has a five-year-old who has
14 health problems. He takes care of him. He has to basically
15 feed him. Right now, because of his wife's situation with a
16 new job, she's unable to take him to school, so he's not in
17 school. He's being cared for by friends of his who -- he's
18 not eating. At least, that's what his friends are telling
19 him. He's -- he just wants to take care of his son. He needs
20 to be out of jail to do that.

21 Also, he doesn't have the international travel that a lot
22 of other people have. He went one time to Nigeria with his
23 new wife he has a one-year-old child with to be at the
24 memorial service for his mother and he got -- and she got to
25 meet his brother and sister in Nigeria. That's the only time

1 he's gone back there.

2 He's -- he's basically -- he has his application in for
3 citizenship here. He wants to live in this country. He does
4 not want to live in Nigeria. He has no reason to go back
5 there. And he wants to take care of his child and he wants to
6 continue his life with his wife. They are separated right
7 now, but they have been working at some sort of reunification.
8 His wife was not able to be here today because, like I said,
9 she started a new job.

10 He has his own business. That's why he doesn't have
11 anything on the Texas Workforce Commission. He's filed his
12 taxes. If he's, you know, this crazy -- this fraudster who
13 goes out and then defrauds, you know, hundreds of thousands of
14 dollars, he works as an -- he works -- he filed his taxes. He
15 works as an Uber driver and for Door Dash. So he's -- he's
16 making money selling his cars, but also sometimes, you know,
17 he comes up a little short and he has to do other jobs, odd
18 jobs.

19 The things the Government talked about as far as direct
20 recipients of victims' funds and he directed others, again,
21 that -- that's through the Internet. It's through anybody who
22 could make an account.

23 As far as aliases, one of them they mentioned is the one
24 on the Match.com account. And, you know, that, again, that
25 could be anybody.

1 Then talked about -- they talked about the SIM cards and
2 that indicates that he is continuing fraud. He would offer
3 that they are prepaid cards that he talks to with his brothers
4 and sisters with. I think they said there are six credit
5 cards in his own name, one not in his name, and then the six
6 Green Dot cards, which, you know, that's not necessarily
7 indicative of fraud. You know, something like -- you know, if
8 you had a whole lot more. But six, I don't think it gets you
9 there.

10 So, as far as continuing danger, I don't believe he is.
11 And as far as, you know, them not finding his passport, his
12 passport is at a bank in a deposit box and he's more than
13 willing to turn that over.

14 I think there are ample conditions that could be put on
15 him that would basically show the Court that he would be here
16 and he's not a flight risk.

17 Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Watson?

19 MR. WATSON: Yes, ma'am. Your Honor, I'd like to
20 start out by mentioning, number one, that he is a U.S.
21 citizen, against the certainty professed by the U.S.
22 Government. He actually is a U.S. citizen.

23 He has no aliases. He has no fake IDs. He has no IDs
24 with other images.

25 I've just submitted to the Court Exhibits 1, 2, and 3 with

1 his Nigerian passport, his U.S. passport, and his naturalized
2 citizenship certificate for New York, for the City of New
3 York. There's -- I believe it's the Eastern District.

4 He has no criminal history. It's illegal [sic] to have
5 cash in the U.S. He's been here for thirteen years. Like we
6 discussed earlier, the TWC Workforce Commission is not
7 indicative of anything.

8 He had no possession of any personal identifiers of other
9 people. He didn't have any -- he didn't have a list of other
10 names or anything.

11 We have a -- we have an individual named Somto Chikebede
12 who is a -- who has lived here for four years and has known my
13 client for two years and is willing and able to act as a
14 surety, custodian on his behalf.

15 The Government submits to the Court that he's -- if he is
16 indeed guilty of this, that tomorrow he's going to get out and
17 start offending again, or keep offending, and that's just pure
18 speculation. In the U.S., an individual has a right to have a
19 firearm. He is a U.S. citizen. So if there was a firearm
20 involved, he has a right to possess a firearm.

21 And they've -- I believe, in the interests of justice,
22 that they haven't -- they haven't met their burden that he
23 should be detained. I don't believe he's a continuing threat,
24 physical or otherwise or economically.

25 They've submitted some evidence of communication from one

1 brother to another. I submit that's fairly weak evidence, and
2 I'm asking the Court to allow him to be released.

3 Like another lawyer said, due process, it actually does
4 become an issue when these types of cases are filed.
5 Communicating with clients, reviewing evidence. I know the
6 courts aren't -- I think the courts believe that's addressed,
7 but I submit to the Court, in reality, it's not. It's
8 extremely difficult to communicate and to do a good job and
9 effective assistance of counsel on these white-collar cases.
10 Going to detention facilities and, you know, flicking through
11 computer screens and showing them documents is just completely
12 unworkable.

13 And I submit to the Court that this -- that my client
14 doesn't really pose a flight risk. I mean, he doesn't have a
15 passport. And the theory that he's going to, you know, swim
16 across the Rio Grande, I guess, or go to South Carolina and
17 get on a shrimp boat and go back to Africa, I mean, but I
18 guess that's the way he would go back and do it, I think
19 that's pretty preposterous. So I'm asking the Court to
20 release him on bond with whatever conditions the Court sees
21 fit.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. CROWDER: Your Honor, you heard that my client is
24 a legal permanent resid... he's got legal permanent status.
25 He has no criminal history, no prior criminal history

1 whatsoever. You heard from his life partner, who is the
2 mother of his child, and she verified all the information with
3 regards to family ties.

4 Exhibits 1 through 7 that we introduced into evidence have
5 documentation that he has actually purchased a home in Collin
6 County, has purchased that in February of 2021. That they had
7 to provide documents in order to get that loan.

8 He has two cars in his name and in Light's name. He has a
9 child who just turned one. He has significant ties to the
10 community. Prior to that, he lived in the Garland home that's
11 in the Pretrial Services report for approximately two years.

12 You did not hear any evidence that my client has been in
13 and out of the country multiple times. In fact, the detective
14 said that he had no history of him leaving the country. You
15 heard from Light, his partner, that he did leave the country
16 once in 2017, and that was to bury his father.

17 Second, Your Honor, you did not hear any evidence that my
18 client had -- has any -- had any communications back and forth
19 with any of the codefendants whatsoever. And I'd like to
20 point out that he is only indicted in Count One and not Count
21 Two, and very minimally stated in the indictment, five out of
22 the 28 manner and means, and that allege a financial crime
23 that occurred that is alleged that he committed a crime in
24 2017. We are now in 2021.

25 Your Honor, the third most important thing is that we

1 presented an exhibit that documents that my client does -- has
2 been diagnosed with chronic kidney disease, Stage 3. And I
3 think -- I'm asking the Court to release him for all the
4 reasons stated, but most importantly, so he can take care of
5 his health.

6 I don't believe that the Government has proven that he is
7 an economic danger, or even a flight risk. And most
8 importantly, he has no criminal history. They did not seize
9 any firearms. And so as far as being a danger to the
10 community, I don't believe that the Government has met that
11 burden.

12 So, for all those reasons, we ask that the Court allow him
13 to be released into -- and have Light, who is his partner, be
14 the third-party custodian, and do any conditions that the --
15 that you see -- that you find appropriate in this case.

16 Thank you.

17 THE COURT: All right. If you'll give me just a
18 moment to review my notes.

19 (Pause, 12:01 to 12:04 p.m.)

20 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Crowder, we're going to
21 start with your client.

22 Mr. Animashaun, if you would please stand, sir.

23 For all the defendants, the Government seeks detention on
24 two grounds: danger to the community, which requires a
25 showing of clear and convincing evidence, and flight risk,

1 which requires a preponderance of the evidence. While the
2 testimony that I've heard today is certainly very, very
3 concerning with regard to the economic danger, the standard is
4 clear and convincing evidence. And given the seizure of much
5 of the information, I don't find that the Government has met
6 its burden on danger to the community, so my focus today is
7 going to be on flight risk.

8 So, with regard to Mr. Animashaun, what I've got here are
9 several factors that I think push it over the line of
10 preponderance of the evidence. The use of aliases, receipts
11 in alias names, possession of personal identifying information
12 for individuals, access to current bank accounts in a foreign
13 country, lack of a stable residence prior to February 2021.
14 And while he does have a partner and child at that address,
15 he's also got a wife and another child somewhere else. Lack
16 of stable employment.

17 So when I weigh all of those things, I do find that the
18 Government has met its burden to show by a preponderance of
19 the evidence that there's a flight risk here. So I am
20 remanding you to the custody of the Marshal pending further
21 proceedings, Mr. Animashaun. Good luck to you, sir. You may
22 have a seat.

23 Mr. Moses. Mr. Moses, I am also finding preponderance of
24 the evidence showing flight risk in your case. And the reason
25 for that, the use of aliases, the existence of a fake passport

1 from another country, the use of aliases, the possession of
2 personal identifying information. Residence, current
3 residence of only four months. But that passport, that's a
4 big factor, that Ghanaian passport.

5 So I'm finding that the Government has met its burden and
6 I'm remanding you to the custody of the Marshal pending
7 further proceedings. Good luck to you, Mr. Moses.

8 With regard to Mr. F. Orji.

9 (Pause.)

10 MR. WATSON: Your Honor?

11 THE COURT: Yes?

12 MR. WATSON: Just to be clear, did the Court accept
13 my Exhibits 1, 2, and 3?

14 THE COURT: I did admit them, yes.

15 MR. WATSON: Okay. Thank you, Judge.

16 THE COURT: All right. And I've weighed those
17 considerably. I mean, that's -- I understand that the
18 Government was not convinced of his citizenship, but I don't
19 think he'd have a U.S. passport if he wasn't a U.S. citizen.
20 And I've seen the certificate of naturalization that you've
21 submitted. So I accept for purposes of my analysis that he is
22 a United States citizen.

23 My concern here is that he is a United States citizen, but
24 he's also a citizen of Nigeria. He's got dual citizenship.
25 Lots of international travel over the last few years. A wife

1 and his children. So, considerable family ties to Nigeria.
2 Limited time at his address. And the currency, foreign
3 currency, and multiple bank accounts.

4 So, for those reasons, I am finding flight -- by a
5 preponderance of the evidence that the Government has shown
6 flight risk. So, good luck to you, Mr. Orji. You may have a
7 seat.

8 Mr. C. Orji.

9 (Pause.)

10 THE COURT: With Mr. C. Orji, this one, this one is
11 close. This one is troubling. But I've got an individual
12 here subject to a detainer, so no matter what I do you've
13 still got immigration issues to address, and that's not for me
14 to determine here. You've got longstanding ties to the
15 community. Testimony from wife of marriage almost eleven
16 years, residing in the same home with his wife and three kids
17 for ten years, work authorization, but balancing that against
18 24 bank accounts and an ID in a fake name with his picture and
19 debit card.

20 Given the longstanding ties, I am going to find here that
21 the Government has not met its burden with regard to Mr. Orji,
22 but you're not going to be released. I am going to release
23 you subject to certain conditions that won't be able to be put
24 in place. I'm going to order an electronic monitor, home
25 incarceration, and this will all be subject to whatever action

1 is taken by -- he can't be released today.

2 So here are your conditions of release, sir. You're not
3 to violate federal, state, or local law while on release. You
4 are to advise the Court or Pretrial Services in writing before
5 any change in address or telephone number. You're to report
6 as required and surrender for service of any sentence imposed
7 as directed. Your next court appearance will be your trial.
8 I'm ordering pretrial supervision. You are to continue or
9 actively seek employment, to be verified by Pretrial. Any,
10 any passport, regardless of where it's from or what name it's
11 in, must be surrendered to the Clerk's Office by noon on
12 Tuesday.

13 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I have it here. I'll give it to
14 them today.

15 THE COURT: Any passports. He's not to obtain a
16 passport or other type of travel document. He's to avoid all
17 contact directly or indirectly with anyone who is or may be a
18 codefendant or witness or victim. He's not to possess any
19 firearms, destructive devices, or other dangerous weapons.
20 And I'm putting him on home detention with an electronic
21 monitor and will restrict him to the residence at all times
22 except for work, school, church, going to the doctor, going to
23 court.

24 And again, that's going to be subject to the determination
25 of whether he's going to get a bond from the Immigration

1 Service.

2 Do you understand these conditions, sir?

3 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: The law requires that I tell you what
5 could happen if you don't follow these conditions. Failing to
6 appear in court as required is a separate crime for which you
7 may be sentenced to imprisonment. If you violate any
8 condition of release, a warrant can be issued for your arrest,
9 you can jailed until trial, and also separately prosecuted for
10 contempt of court.

11 If you commit another crime while on pretrial release,
12 that could lead to more severe punishment than you would
13 otherwise receive for that same crime at any other time. And
14 it is a crime to try to influence, threaten, attempt to bribe,
15 or retaliate against any juror, witness, or other person who
16 may have information about the case, or to otherwise instruct
17 the administration of justice.

18 Do you understand what could happen if you don't follow
19 the conditions?

20 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: One other condition I meant to impose and
22 forgot: You are not to open any new bank accounts.

23 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Or create and open any new businesses.

25 Are there any other conditions the Government asks the

1 Court to consider?

2 MS. WALTERS: Your Honor, we would ask no contact
3 with codefendants in this case or the counterpart cases, just
4 as the exact same condition that was imposed on Ms. Occoro
5 (phonetic) on Wednesday.

6 THE COURT: I'm also going to impose that
7 clarification that no contact with codefendants in the related
8 cases, and I'll issue an order that lists those.

9 All right. Do you understand these conditions?

10 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, ma'am.

11 THE COURT: I have signed the order. I am going to
12 hand it down. Take your time to go over that order, ask your
13 attorneys any questions. I will be happy to answer any
14 questions. By signing that order, you will be telling the
15 Court that you fully understand your conditions of release,
16 you agree to follow those conditions, and you understand what
17 could happen if you don't.

18 We're both going to be comfortable -- hold on, hold on.
19 We're both going to be comfortable before you leave here today
20 that you do fully understand those conditions. Later on, if
21 any violation is shown, I'll know that it's not as a result of
22 a lack of understanding. I'll take that as an indication that
23 you choose not to follow my conditions, and I can revoke you
24 on that basis.

25 It's important you understand I am considered a zero-

1 tolerance policy judge. That is a federal court order that
2 governs your release while you are awaiting trial on federal
3 criminal charges. So any violation, no matter how technical,
4 is still a violation of a federal court order. You're either
5 going to follow it or you're not, and if you're not it will be
6 extremely difficult for you to convince me that your
7 conditions should not be revoked. So I expect those
8 conditions to be followed to the letter of the law. Do you
9 understand that, sir?

10 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right. You may have a seat.

12 (Pause.)

13 THE COURT: If you'll hold onto it for just a second,
14 I'd like for you to show that last page to Mr. Orji.

15 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Sir, is that your signature on that page?

17 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'm sorry, Judge. Uh, --

18 THE COURT: The signature page of the order.

19 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Yes. Okay. I had it in the wrong
20 order. But yes, we've got it now.

21 THE COURT: Is that your signature, sir?

22 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Did you have a chance to review that
24 order before you signed it?

25 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Did you have a chance to ask your
2 attorneys any questions you had?

3 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Do you have any questions for me?

5 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Not at this time.

6 THE COURT: By signing that order, are you telling
7 the Court that you fully understand your conditions of
8 release, you agree to follow those conditions, and you
9 understand what could happen if you don't?

10 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Then I hereby order you released after
12 the conditions have been put in place. And again, you've got
13 a detainer. You're going through the immigration process
14 first. But to the extent you get released, then Pretrial
15 Services will have to notify me that you've been -- that it's
16 got the equipment available and ready. We don't know when
17 that's going to be. So you're not ordered released from our
18 custody. Can we put a detainer? Where's the Marshal? We can
19 put a detainer on him when he's done with Immigration to take
20 care of the other things.

21 Do you have any questions about anything we've covered
22 here today?

23 DEFENDANT C. ORJI: No, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Anything else the Court
25 should address with regard to Mr. C. Orji?

1 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Nothing, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Is the Government asking for a stay of my
3 order pending any appeal?

4 MS. WALTERS: No, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Good luck to you, sir. We
6 are adjourned.

7 THE CLERK: All rise.

8 (Proceedings concluded at 12:25 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

20 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
21 the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the
above-entitled matter.

22 **/s/ Kathy Rehling**

10/23/2021

23

24 _____
Kathy Rehling, CETD-444
Certified Electronic Court Transcriber

Date

25

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